

# Comment List

## RC 44

Comments received at 2013 Chignik Finfish,  
2013 Lower Cook Inlet and 2014 Kodiak Finfish

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Chignik Fish and Game Advisory Committee.....	AC 01
Sand Point Fish and Game Advisory Committee. ....	AC 02
Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee .....	AC 03
Seldovia Fish and Game Advisory Committee .....	AC 04
Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee .....	AC 05
Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee .....	AC 06
Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee. ....	AC 07
Darius Kasprzak.....	PC 33
NOAA/NMFS Alaska Region.....	PC 43
Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association .....	PC 62
Kenai River Sportfishing Association.....	PC 64
Alaska Groundfish Data Bank.....	PC 65
Mike Shupe .....	PC 66
Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association .....	PC 67
Matthew R. Graham.....	RC 18
Matt Hegge .....	RC 52
Matt Hegge .....	RC92

### INDEX OF COMMENTS FOR PROPOSAL 44

*This index of advisory committee and public comments shows either SUPPORT or OPPOSITION for proposal 44 at the 2013 Chignik Finfish, 2013 Lower Cook Inlet Finfish and 2014 Kodiak Finfish meetings. The center column indicates a comment was made but without a clear indication of support or opposition. The reference number (ACxx or PCxx) refers to the Advisory Committee comment number or Public Comment number. The full comment as submitted can be found in the Advisory Committee tab or Public Comment tab of the board book (Record Copy 1). The notation of "S/A" indicates support as amended.*

Fish and Game	Support	General Comments	Opposition
N/O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kodiak AC 3 S/A</li> <li>● Alaska Jig Association PC 33 S/A</li> <li>● Kenai River Sportfishing Association PC 64</li> <li>● Mike Shupe PC 66</li> <li>● Matt Hegge RC 52 S/A</li> <li>● Matt Hegge RC 92 S/A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mary Furuness-NOAA, NMFS Alaska Region PC 43</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chignik AC 1</li> <li>● Sand Point AC 2</li> <li>● Seldovia AC 4</li> <li>● Central Peninsula AC 5</li> <li>● Homer AC 6</li> <li>● Cooper Landing AC 7</li> <li>● Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association PC 62/ PC 67</li> <li>● Alaska Groundfish Data Bank PC 65</li> <li>● Matthew R. Graham RC 18</li> </ul>

# **Chignik Fish and Game Advisory Committee**

## **Excerpt of Draft Meeting Minutes pertaining to Kodiak BOF**

November 14, 2013

Location: Chignik Lagoon Subsistence Building

### **Minutes**

I. Call to Order at 1:45 pm

### **II. Roll Call:**

#### **Committee Members Present**

Don Bumpus, Chignik Lagoon, Vice Chair  
Rodney Anderson, Chignik Lagoon, Alt.  
Gary Anderson, Chignik Lagoon  
Jacob Shangin, Ivanof Bay, Chair  
Stephan Shangin, Ivanof Bay  
Patrick Kosbruk, Perryville  
Boris Kobruk Jr., Perryville

#### **Absent**

Noah Shanign, Ivanof Bay  
Ben Allen, Chignik Bay  
Don Lind, Chignik Lake  
Harry Kalmakoff, Chignik Lake  
Alvin Boskofsky, Chignik Lake  
Marvin Yagie, Perryville  
Alfredo Abeuid, Chignik Lagoon

Seven of thirteen members are present, quorum is established.

### **Others in Attendance:**

Susie Jenkins- Brito, ADFG  
Charlie Russell, ADF&G  
Mark Stichert, ADF&G  
James Jackson, ADF&G  
Gayla Woods, BBNA  
Frank Woods, BBNA  
Courtney Gomez, BBNA  
Chuck McCallum, Lake and Pen. Borough  
George Anderson, Chignik Lagoon  
Aaron Anderson, Chignik Lagoon  
Alvin Pedersen, Chignik Lagoon  
Ernie Carlson

**III. Approve Agenda:** Patrick Kosbruk moves for Approval of the Agenda, Gary 2<sup>nds</sup>  
Agenda Approved by unanimous consent

**IV. Approval of Minutes:** Patrick Kosbruk moves to approve the September 10 and October 3 minutes. Minutes approved by unanimous consent.

**V. Introductions:** All present briefly introduced themselves.

### **VI. BOF Proposed Regulatory Changes**

**PROPOSAL 43 -**

**Action Taken: Oppose 0-7**



**DESCRIPTION:** Create state-waters groundfish management plans for trawl vessels less than 58 feet in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Chignik management areas. (This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)

**Motion to adopt:** Rodney Anderson; **Second:** Don Bumpus

**DISCUSSION:**

Several members expressed concern against any kind of drag fishery citing how fragile our Tanner crab are and are completely opposed to dragging inside three miles.

A major problem with the idea of having 100% observers is that the State doesn't have an observer program and it would be a major hurdle to implement one.

**QUESTION CALLED:** Patrick Kosbruk

**ACTION:** Motion Failed 0 - 7

**PROPOSAL 44 -**

**Action Taken: Oppose 0-7**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create state-waters walleye pollock management plans for Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Chignik management areas. (This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)

**Motion to adopt:** Don Bumpus; **Second:** Rodney Anderson

**DISCUSSION:**

**QUESTION CALLED:** Gary Anderson

**ACTION:** Motion Failed 0 - 7

**PROPOSAL 45 -**

**Action Taken: Support with Amendment 7-0**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require 100 percent observer coverage on groundfish trawl vessels in state waters of the Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Chignik management areas. (This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)

**Motion to adopt:** Don; **Second:** Gary

**AMENDMENT:** Close all Chignik Area State-waters (within 3 miles) to all pelagic and non-pelagic trawl.

**DISCUSSION:**

It's not clear who would be responsible for observers, the State or the Feds.

Can the State tell feds to have 100% observer coverage inside 3 miles?

If the Feds say no then the State needs to develop its own program and that would be difficult.

The State can keep boats from fishing inside three if they don't have 100% observers.

If they were fishing mid-water then fine but we don't know they are and we don't know the impact on kings and the hitting bottom.

Cod are mid-water also and flatfish can be mid water sometimes and we just don't know the impact.

The eastern District is very shallow inside 3 and your net is going to hit bottom.

By definition Pelagic trawling is mid-water, Aaron A. commented at the meeting, that just because they are considered mid-water doesn't mean that they stay mid-water. The bigger fish are close to the bottom during certain times of the day. The draggers then target them. What they won't tell you though is that they end up scraping the bottom on a regular basis doing so. Because they do this, they try to stay on mud bottom otherwise they tear up their nets. Our crab are on mud bottom.

Crab move tremendous distances, why aren't the crab coming back the way they should? And what is happening to our halibut fishery?



AMENDMENT: Motion: Rodney Anderson; Second: Don Bumpus

Amendment made to close all Chignik Area State waters (within 3 miles) to all pelagic trawl.

**QUESTION CALLED:** Gary

**ACTION:** Motion Passes as Amended 7 – 0

**\*\*\*Stephan Shangin excused from meeting, remaining proposals discussed by subcommittee appointed by the Chair approved unanimously prior to Stephan's departure, subcommittee consists of remaining six AC members.**

### **Kodiak Finfish Proposals**

#### **PROPOSAL 92 -**

**Action Taken: Support with Amendment 6-0**

**DESCRIPTION:** Change management standard that harvest of sockeye salmon in Cape Igvak Section not exceed 15% at any time or before August 26.

**Motion to adopt:** Don Bumpus; **Second:** Rodney Anderson

**AMENDMENT:** Change the August 26 date to July 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The amendment is to address the only reason that the department opposed the proposal – the department needs to be able to manage the local pinks and chums between July 25 and August 26. **Motion to amend:** Rodney Anderson; **Second:** Don Bumpus

**QUESTION CALLED:** Gary Anderson

**ACTION:** Motion Passed as amended 6 - 0

#### **PROPOSAL 93 -**

**Action Taken: Support 6-0**

**DESCRIPTION:** Amend plan to apply allocation of 15% of total Chignik sockeye salmon catch only before July 8.

**Motion to adopt:** Don Bumpus; **Second:** Gary Anderson

**DISCUSSION:**

Don- How many reds are taken from Cape Igvak section post July 8th?

Dept- Harvest varies from year to year.

Aaron- Is this proposal passes, what would happen post July 8th?

Dept- After 25th, they will be managed on local stocks.

George- What is the % of the cape igvak section contribution of the overall Kodiak salmon harvest?

Dept- Table 9 of the AMR breakdown by fishery. The information is there.

**QUESTION CALLED:**

**ACTION:** Motion Passed 6 – 0

#### **PROPOSAL 94 -**

**Action Taken: Support 6-0**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require check-in and check-out in Cape Igvak Section and delivery of salmon before leaving section.



**Motion to adopt:** Rodney Anderson; **Second:** Don Bumpus

**DISCUSSION:** Rodney: We as fisherman can get blurred vision when it comes to reporting. I am looking for a way to clarify the reporting.

**QUESTION CALLED:** Don Bumpus

**ACTION:** Motion Passes 6 – 0

*Full Minutes (pertaining to Chignik and Statewide BOF)*

*Available upon Request*

*Meeting Minutes formatted by*

*Susie Jenkins- Brito, ADF&G Boards Support*

*At the Request of the Advisory Committee*



# **AGENDA**

## **SAND POINT FISH & GAME ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**Date: September 27 ,2013**

**Time: 6:00 pm**

**LOCATION: City Chambers**

### **1. 2013 Board of Fish Proposals**



# SAND POINT FISH & GAME ADVISORY COM

SEPT. 27, 2013

## SIGN IN

- ① JOHN FOSTER
- ② William Dushkin Sr
- ③ Paul Holmberg
- ④ Charles Gundersen
- ⑤ [Signature]
- ⑥ [Signature]
- ⑦ [Signature]
- ⑧ J. L. L.
- ⑨ Jack Foster Jr
- ⑩ Ben M. L.
- ⑪ DRAIN A. FOSTER JR.
- ⑫
- ⑬
- ⑭
- ⑮



SAND POINT FISH & GAME ADVISORY BOARD

MEETINGS MINUTES

SEPT. 27, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: JOHN FOSTER, CHARLES GUNDEY  
TAYLOR LUNDGREN, BRUCE FOSTER JR, KYLEY THOM

MEMBERS ABSENT - DAVID OSTERBACK, MELVIN LARSEN  
ROBIN LARSEN, JIM SMITH, PATRICK BROWN.

BOARD OF FISH PROPOSALS:

#3: PROPOSAL FAILED VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

#4: PROPOSAL FAILED VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

#5: PROPOSAL FAILED VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

#8: PROPOSAL FAILED VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

COMMENTS: COULD BRING MORE EFFORT INTO THE  
S. PENINSULA STATEWATER COD FISHERY.

#9: PROPOSAL FAILED VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

COMMENTS: UNINFORCEABLE. COULD ALSO MOVE MORE  
EFFORT INTO S. PEN. STATEWATER COD FISHERY.

#10: PROPOSAL FAILED VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

COMMENTS: COULD IMPACT THE AREA M STATEWATER  
COD FISHERY.

#11: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-5





(2)

#12: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

#13: PROPOSAL PASSED: VOTE: YES-5 NO-0

#14: NO ACTION

#15: NO ACTION VOTE: YES-2 NO-2 1-ABST

#16: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

COMMENTS: If we lose AREA, DO we lose QUOTA  
PEOPLE CONCERNED that if we lose AREA, will we  
ALSO lose QUOTA that goes with the LAST AREA.

#17: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

COMMENTS: SAME AS #16

#18: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

#19: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

#20: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

#21: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

COMMENTS FOR #18-21:

#18: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-4 1-ABST

#19: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-4 1-ABST

#20: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-4 1-ABST

#21: PROPOSAL FAILED: VOTE: YES-0 NO-4 1-ABST

COMMENTS FOR #18-21:

① COMMENTS FOR: WILL HELP the SMALL BOAT POT  
FLEET + COMMUNITIES.

② COMMENTS AGAINST- Putting MORE QUOTA INTO  
the STATE WATER FISHERY WILL NOT HELP the  
BOAT POT FISHERMEN WITHOUT HAVING SOME



③

PUT IN PLACE TO STOP the INFUX OF NEW BOATS ATTRACTED BY the INCREASED QUOTA. THERE ARE ALREADY 6 to 8 BOATS that HAVEN'T PARTICIPATED IN the STATEWATER COD FISHERY LATELY, that WOULD HAVE TO IF ~~THE~~ MORE QUOTA IS TAKEN FROM the FEDERAL TRAWL & POT FISHERIES.

#22: NO ACTION

COMMENTS: WORDING SOMEWHAT CONFUSING

#23: PROPOSAL FAILED VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

COMMENTS: WORDING MAY BE WRONG IN this PROPOSAL SEASON WOULD NOT OPEN UNTIL AT LEAST MAR. 7 WITH this WORDING (WHICHEVER IS LATER)

#24: PROPOSAL PASSES VOTE: YES-5 NO-0

COMMENTS: LATER OPENINGS IN MARCH ARE BETTER FOR the VOLUME OF CATCHES IN the STATEWATER COD FISHERY

#25: NO ACTION

#26: PROPOSAL PASSES VOTE- YES-5 NO-0

#27: PROPOSAL PASSES VOTE- YES-5 NO-0

#28: PROPOSAL FAILS VOTE- YES-0 NO-5

#34: PROPOSAL ~~PASSES~~ FAILS VOTE- YES-0 NO-5

#35: PROPOSAL PASSES VOTE- YES-5 NO-0

#36: PROPOSAL PASSES VOTE- YES-5 NO-0

COMMENTS: MAY TAKE SOME PRESSURE OR other STATEWATER COD FISHERIES



(4)

#38: PROPOSAL FAILED

VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

#39: PROPOSAL PASSED

VOTE: YES-5 NO-0

COMMENTS: WHEN THE SEDM HAS PINK SALMON ESCAPEMENT PROBLEMS IN RECENT YEARS THE SEDM HAS BEEN CLOSED UNTIL FULL ESCAPEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WHILE THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF CHIGNIK HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO STAY OPEN. WITH THIS MANAGEMENT STYLE OF THE ADFG, THE SETNET FLEET HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO FISH IN AUGUST, EVEN THOUGH ESCAPEMENT <sup>LEVELS</sup> ARE GOOD BUT NOT COMPLETE UNTIL LATE AUGUST. THE DEPARTMENT SAYS THEY CANNOT OPEN ANY AREA FOR ONE GEAR GROUP EVEN IF THIS GEAR GROUP DOES NOT OVERLAP IMPACT ESCAPEMENT.

#40: NO ACTION

COMMENTS: CONFUSING. DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THIS PROPOSAL TO KNOW IF IT HELPS OR NOT.

#41: PROPOSAL FAILS:

VOTE: YES-0 NO-5

COMMENTS: IN ALL OTHER AREAS A PURSE SEINE IS CONSIDERED STOPPED FISHING WHEN THE RIGGS ARE OUT OF THE WATER.

#42: PROPOSAL FAILS

VOTE - YES-0 NO-5

#43: PROPOSAL FAILS

VOTE - YES-0 NO-5

#44: PROPOSAL FAILS

VOTE - YES-0 NO-5



⑤

#340: PROPOSAL PASSES

VOTE: Yes-5 No-0

#341: NO ACTION

#342: PROPOSAL FAILED

VOTE: Yes-0 No-5

COMMENTS: THIS PROPOSAL MAY BRING MORE BOATS IN  
the TANNER CRAB FISHERY. RIGHT NOW this is a  
TWO WEEK STAND DOWN PERIOD ON USING POTS BECAUSE  
A TANNER OPENING. IF the DATE IS CHANGED it COULD  
BRING the CDQ BOATS INTO the TANNER FISHERY INSTEAD  
OF the FED. POT FISHERY.

#343: NO ACTION

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:00 PM



**Kodiak Fish & Game Advisory Committee**  
**December 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013---KNWR Visitors Center**  
**Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman**

(Minutes represent a paraphrased summary of the KAC, department staff and public comments and are not a verbatim transcript of the meeting. Tapes of the meeting are available for public review by contacting the committee secretary)

**Call to order:** 6:00pm by vice chair Julie Kavanaugh.

**Roll call: Members present:** Dick Roher(for Paul Chervenak-Big game Guide/Outfitter), Oliver Holm(Small Boat crab/Herring & salmon Seiner), Theresa Peterson(for Pete Hannah-Salmon Gill-net South End), Secretary Don Fox(Alternate-retired commercial fisherman), Kip Thomet(Salmon Gill-net West Side), Jason Bunch(Alternate-Coast Guard & Big Game Guide), Ron Kavanaugh(Small Boat Crab/Herring & Salmon Seiner), Patrick O Donnel(for Curt Waters-Trawl Seat), Rolan Ruoss(Transporter), Andy Finke(Kodiak Subsistence), Duncan Fields(Port Lions/Ouizinke-Subsistence), Rick Berns(Old Harbor/Ahkiok Subsistence), Vice-Chair Julie Kavanaugh(Interested Citizen).

**Unexcused absences:** Larsen Bay/Karluk Subsistence.

**Excused absences:** Tuck Bonney(Processor), Lou Dochtermann(Large Boat Crab).

**Quorum:** Achieved with 13 member present(8 needed).

**User groups present:** Subsistence, sport fishermen, charter and lodge operators, trawl fishermen, jig fishermen, commercial salmon fishermen, big game guides, processor.

**Department Staff:** James Jackson, Jeff Wadle, Geoff Spalanger and Birch Foster.

**BOF member:** Sue Jeffrey.

**Department of Public Safety:** Trooper Todd Mountain.

**Audience:** 35.

**Approve agenda:** Proposal #97 would be taken up after staff reports so Trooper Mountain could return to work. Amended agenda approved unanimously.

**Approve minutes of our previous meeting of September 30<sup>th</sup> 2013:** Minutes approved unanimously.

**Correspondence:** A letter from Rick Blanc with comments on several salmon proposals.

**Chair Announcements:** None.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

- 1) Department presentation on the wrap-up of the 2013 salmon season and forecast for 2014 by James Jackson and on herring by Geoff Spalanger.
- 2) **Salmon proposals:**
- 3) **Adjourn:** 11:20 pm will take up sport and ground fish at 6pm on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December.

December 18<sup>th</sup> 2013  
KNWRVC

**RECEIVED**

**DEC 23 2013**

**BOARDS  
ANCHORAGE**

AC 3 p.1

**Kodiak Fish & Game Advisory Committee**  
**December 17<sup>th</sup> & 18th, 2013---KNWR Visitors Center**

**Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman**

**Roll call:** Called to order at 6:00pm by vice chair Julie Kavanaugh.

**Members present:** Same as the 17<sup>th</sup> except for Any Finke was absent and Tuck Bonney was present.

**Quorum:** Achieved with 13 members present(8 needed).

**User groups present:** Same as on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Staff:** Wayne Donaldson, Mark Stichert, Don Tracy and Tyler Pollum.

**BOF member:** Sue Jeffrey.

**Audience:** 30.

**Agenda:** Approved unanimously.

**Chair announcements:** None.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Old business:** Theresa Peterson was selected to chair the committee work group to develop alternate language for proposal #91 to be submitted as a RC at the Kodiak BOF meeting.

**New business:**

- 1) **Sport fish proposals:**
- 2) **Ground fish proposals**
- 3) **KAC member for the BOF:** Julie Kavanaugh was selected to represent the committee at BOF meeting. Don Fox and Julie Kavanaugh were selected to sit in on BOF committees in case there was more than one committee.
- 4) **Date of next KAC meeting:** Late February(around the 24<sup>th</sup>) was selected to hold committee elections and address Cycle A state wide game and King and Tanner crab proposals
- 5) **ADJOURN:** 10:20 pm.

**Salmon proposals;**



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**Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman**

Department staff provided the committee with staff comments and information packets to aide in our discussions.

**BOF-Proposal # 88:** Change staggered fishing periods in Olga Bay, Moser Bay, Alitak Bay and Cape Alitak.

**OPPOSE-support 0- Oppose 13.**

**Staff comments:** Would increase time nets were out of the water probably increasing escapements when larger escapements not needed. The department wishes to avoid terminal fisheries.

**Committee comments:** Agree with staff comments. The KAC supports the plan that is in place now. All groups get a chance to fish without gear in front of them. Wouldn't want to constrain the departments ability to manage the fishery.

**BOF-Proposal #89:** Change management dates for Cape Alitak Section based on late Upper Station returns.

**OPPOSE-support 0-oppose 13.**

**Staff comments:** Opposed.

**Committee comments:** In reply to member Fields question about the magnitude of the pink salmon run the department stated that the current structure allows them to protect the weak runs. In odd years the smaller run shows up earlier then in the even year cycle where it's somewhat later. The committee agreed with and supports the departments current management strategy.

**BOF-Proposal #90:** Establish management options for the Humpy/Deadman Section after July 15<sup>th</sup> for the protection of other salmon runs in the Alitak District.

**OPPOSE-support 1-oppose 12.**

**Staff comments:** Opposed.

**Committee comments:** In reply to a question as to what would happen if the lines were withdrawn to avoid catches of mixed stocks the department felt it would be difficult to control the pink salmon escapements and they wanted to avoid putting too many pink salmon up the river and having to catch the fish in a terminal fishery. KAC members agreed with and supported the staff's position.

**Minority opinion:** Ms. Peterson felt that a more refined approach in boundary lines could provide additional sockeye escapement to struggling systems.

**BOF-Proposal #91:** Amend the management plan to direct the department to manage for early run Upper Station sockeye and to achieve biological escapement goals(BEG) for early run Upper Station and Frazer sockeye salmon.

**(Proposal # 91-continued)**

**SUPPORT(as amended)-support 13-oppose 0.**

**Staff comments:** The intent of the BOF for salmon management plans is to harvest the fish in traditional harvest areas. Non-traditional harvests are terminal fisheries which the department wishes to avoid.

**Committee comments:** Committee members agree with and support staff comments. KAC members all agreed that escapements into the early sockeye run should be increased but felt

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**Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman**

more time would be needed to work out a solution. A amendment was offered and adopted unanimously to form a committee group comprised of both gear types to come up with substitute language by the time of the Kodiak BOF meeting to be submitted by the KAC as a RC.

**Amendment:** The Kodiak Advisory Committee supports in principle management measures that would allow for the possibility of increased escapement in Upper Station to be worked out by the two user groups prior to the BOF meeting and that would also allow for Upper Station rehabilitation projects.

**The Kodiak Advisory Committee would like to preface all comments on proposals #92-93 and 94 with the following statement:** The KAC requests that the Alaska Board of Fisheries encourage the Alaska Department of Fish & Game to prioritize funding for genetic stock identification of sockeye salmon caught in the June 1<sup>st</sup>-July 25<sup>th</sup> time frame in the Cape Igvak Section of the Kodiak Management District.

**BOF-Proposal # 92-**Change management standard that harvest of sockeye salmon not exceed 15% at any time on or before August 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Oppose- support 0-oppose 13.**

**Staff comments:** Adoption of the proposal would make it extremely difficult to achieve the 15% sockeye allocation. The department traditionally goes over the 15% prior to the overlap period between the early and late runs. The difference is made up later. The Chignik fleet continues to fish during the overlap period so their catch numbers go up. After July 26 the department manages for local pink and chum stocks.

**Committee comments:** We agree with and support staff comments. The sockeye caught during the Igvak fishery contain mixed stocks that are all not bound for Chignik. Without genetic stock assessment these mixed stocks cannot be separated. **This proposal is a round about way to lower the Kodiak fleets 15% share of this traditional fishery.**

**BOF-Proposal #93-** Amend plan to apply allocation of 15% of total Chignik sockeye catch only before July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Oppose- support 0- oppose 13.**

**Committee comments:** This proposal would cut the time in half the Kodiak fleet is allowed to harvest their allocation in this traditional fishery.

**We would like to reference our comments from the previous proposal #92.**

**BOF - \_Proposal #94-** Require check in and check out in cape Igvak Section and delivery of salmon before leaving section.

**Opposed-support 0-oppose13.**

**Staff comments:** Department is **opposed** we have no reason to believe catches are being mis-represented by the Kodiak fleet. In season harvest data and fish tickets are the best information.

**Committee comments:** Agree with and support staff comments. Boats fishing in the Cape Igvak fishery are required to delivery daily on the grounds for reasons of fish quality. Later in the season when effort is down not all canneries can afford to keep a tender in the area this



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**Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman**

requirement would place an undue burden on Kodiak fisherman who only deliver to a single processor.

**BOF-Proposal #95-** The proposal would require the department to open the Central Section of the North West District on June 28<sup>th</sup> for one, set gill net only, 114hr fishing period.

**Support(as amended)-support 7 –oppose 6**

**(amendment passed 10-3- main motion passed 7-6)**

**Staff comments:** Opposed because of harvest of Karluk bound early run sockeye.

**Committee comments:** KAC members agreed with the maker of the proposal Mr. Berns that since by the 28<sup>th</sup> of June the majority (88%) of the Karluk early run sockeye are past the weir and the majority of the rest are in the lagoon at Karluk that few early run sockeye would be caught in a late June early July set-net only fishery. They would be targeting Spirdon(Telarod Cove) bound KRAA enhanced stocks. It was felt that this was a matter of equity as this is the only KRAA enhancement project that set-netters are able to participate in. Gill-net fisherman pay an enhancement tax to the KRAA on all the fish they catch but all the other projects are in seine only areas. The terminal fishery at Telarod Cove is a seine only area. When the fishery in the Central Section is closed due to low Karluk escapements the opportunity to harvest the enhanced stocks is lost when in the years Karluk stocks are strong both gear types have the opportunity to fish plus the seine fleet has the terminal fishery also. This fishery would only be open if Karluk has met minimum escapement goals.

**Amendment:** This proposal would require the department to open the Central Section of the North West Kodiak district on or before July 3<sup>rd</sup> for one (1) set gillnet only opening for an 81hr fishing period if or when the lower Karluk escapement goal is met.

**Minority opinion:** Some of the Telarod fish are taken for cost recovery in 2013 approximately 100,000 were. The association would probably be taking more in the future for cost recovery. The amended date of on or before the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July is pushing close to the July 6<sup>th</sup> date for the traditional opening that allows the fleet to begin harvesting pink and chum salmon.

**BOF Proposal#96-** After August 15<sup>th</sup>, allow gillnet gear in inner bay sections of the Northwest Kodiak district during open fishing periods if Central and North cape sections are closed for more than 48hrs.

**Oppose-support 3-oppose 9-abstained 1.**

**Staff comments:** Neutral the proposal is allocative.

**Committee comments:** Most committee members felt there would be gear conflicts and that the ability to harvest pinks in the inner bays would not be available to everyone. The set-net fishery (**Proposal #96-continued**) is a skiff fishery and with out a larger vessel travel to and from the open areas would not be available to all fishermen. KAC members did not want to revive the old seiner vrs gillnetter allocation battles of the past and want to leave the status quo in place.

**Minority opinion:** Mr. fields felt that this was a matter of equity and that to have the outside fishery shut down to protect late run Karluk sockeye stocks then have the inner bays only open to the seine fleet to harvest pink salmon was unfair. He felt there was a need to address this now or in the next Kodiak BOF cycle.

**BOF-Proposal #97-** Delay closure of the North West Kodiak District if a gale warning is forecast for Shelikof Strait.

Kodiak Fish & Game Advisory Committee  
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Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman

**Oppose-Support 1-Oppose 12.**

**Staff comments:** Opposed because of concerns for the departments ability to manage for KMA salmon escapements.

**Department of public safety comments:** Trooper Mountain attended the meeting to address what the position of enforcement would be: "as long as a good faith effort was made and you notified the troopers in a timely manner (not right at closure time) in the event of mechanical difficulty or extreme weather conditions you would not be cited. The fish caught after the closure time would be forfeit to the State of Alaska".

**Committee comments:** Agreed with and support staff and public safety comments. The majority of set-netters at the meeting stated that when it appeared bad weather was forecast that they pulled their nets earlier than the closure time. KAC members felt that in extreme weather some of the larger seine vessels in the fleet could keep fishing while smaller vessels would be anchored up in more sheltered areas thus resulting in a re-allocation of fish to the bigger seiners. What's a gale to some set-netters could be a millpond to others all depending on the wind direction. Committee member Mr. Fox stated that he usually can always pick his nets in most weather conditions while still not being able to pick his gear up so he would in all probability fish till the end of the weather extension.

**Minority opinion:** Mr. Fields felt that it was a issue of vessel and fisherman safety because of the nature of the fishery that was being prosecuted in small open vessels.

**BOF-Proposal #98-** Allow CFEC salmon seine permit holders to operate additional gear under a dual permit or joint venture.

**Oppose-support 1-oppose 12.**

**Audience comments:** Quite a few seine fishermen in the audience were concerned about the number of unused permits. There was a fear that with the increased ex-vessel value of seine catches these permits would enter the fishery (approximately 1/2 of the seine permits are not being fished). They felt that adoption of this proposal would remove permits from the fishery.

**Committee comments:** Longer purse seines would reallocate fish from the set-net to the seine fishery especially in the mixed gear areas. It would increase the efficiency of the large vessels vrs the smaller ones unable to fish the larger seines. KAC members also believed the value of permits would be driven up making it more difficult for new entrants to enter the seine fishery.

**Minority opinion:** Agreed with and supported the comments from the audience.

**BOF Proposal #99-** Reinstate dual set-net permits for single permit holders to fish additional gear.

**Oppose-support 1-oppose 10-abstain 1.**

**Committee comments:** Adoption of proposal #99 would allow for consolidation of the fishery making it more expensive and difficult for new entrants into the fishery. KAC member Mr. Fox stated he knew of at least two instances where a permit holder bought a neighbors site and put both permits in their names after dual permits were repealed at the last Kodiak BOF meeting the permits were subsequently put in crew members names. Of the 12 set-net fisheries in the state Kodiak had the second highest gross per permit. No one should be guaranteed a living permit holders should be active in the fishery. When you have permit stacking it allows someone to

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**Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman**

have an income but not participate actively in the fishery which was the original intent of the CFEC limited entry program.

**Minority opinion:** Felt that the large multi-permit family operations needed the ability to fish all their permits and gear especially in these years of lower ex-vessel per permit earnings for the set-net fleet.

**Abstentions:** Had mixed feelings but felt there was some benefits for family operations but could see the loss of opportunity for new entrants into the set-net fishery.

**Sport fish proposals**

**BOF-Proposal #100-**Restore sport limit of rockfish to 10 per day outside of Chiniak Bay.

**Support(as amended)-support 12-oppose 1.**

**Staff comments:** Department has no biological concerns or feel that there could be any enforcement problems

**Committee comments:** The AC spent around 1 ½ hours discussing this proposal. Agreed with and supported department comments. As there were no boundaries set except outside Chiniak Bay the AC offered an amendment. The boundaries protect the subsistence needs of Kodiak, Port Lions, Ouzinake. There was also concern for areas on the West Side of Kodiak Island. Uyak and Uganik Bays were included because of lack of data on the strength of local stocks. With the increase of charter effort and increase in the number of lodges overharvest by the guided sports industry plus the concern for the subsistence needs of Larsen Bay caused the AC to include these areas. The KAC felt there were probably other areas near villages that could or should be included.

**Amendment:** Restore sport limit of rockfish to 10 per day outside of Chiniak Bay as defined by a line Cape Chiniak to Duck Cape but not to be less than One(1) nautical mile off of Long Island. Uyak Bay as identified by a line from Rocky Point to Cape Kuliak. Uganik Bay defined by a line from Miners Point to Cape Uganik.

**Minority Opinion:** Heard about staff obtaining more data would wait to see the new data before increasing the bag limit.

**Ground fish proposals**

**BOF-Proposal-#369-** Implement a management plan for open-access weathervane scallop fishery in waters of Alaska.

**Support-support 13-oppose 0.**

**Staff comments:** Department proposal.

**Committee comments:** After listening to the departments presentation the AC support the plan as outlined by staff.

**BOF Proposal #43-** Create a state waters ground fish management plan for vessels less than 58ft in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Chignik Management Areas.

**Oppose-support 1-oppose 10-abstained 1.**

**Staff comments:** Opposed. The department supports closure of state waters included in this proposal to non-pelagic trawl gear to protect near shore habitat and fishery resources.

**Committee Comments:** Support staff comments. The AC is always in favor of creating new

**Kodiak Fish & Game Advisory Committee**  
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**Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman**

State waters fisheries but not this one.

**Minority opinion;** Was in favor of a state waters fishery but feel this proposal is the wrong tool to do it.

**BOF Proposal #44-** Create state waters walleye Pollock management plans for Cook Inlet, Kodiak and the Chignik Management Areas.

**Support(as amended)-support 9-oppose 2-abstained 1.**

**Staff comments:** Opposed to non-pelagic trawls in state waters due to by batch issues. Who would pay for the observer program??? The department would need additional funding to implement these new fisheries.

**Committee comments:** Agree with and support the departments comments. The KAC is against creating a state waters fishery for trawl vessels at this time. Would like to give some support to our small boat jig fleet by creating a pollock jig fishery. Mr. Holm offered an amendment to this effect.

**Amendment:** To table all aspects of this proposal but would like the BOF to provide access to pollock within state waters for the jig fleet without MRA.

**Minority opinion:** None given.

**Abstentions:** ???.

**BOF\_Proposal #45-** Require 100% observer coverage on ground fish trawl vessels in state waters of Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Chignik Management Areas.

**Oppose-support 1-oppose 10-abstained 1.**

**Staff comments:** Support the collection of fishery data. BOF would have decide who provided the coverage. Would result in additional costs to the public to participate. Observers could cost up to \$450 a day if the vessel was required to pay for it.

**(Proposal #45-continued)**

**Committee comments:** Agree with staff comments. Committee members believed this proposal would place an unfair burden on the trawl fleet as they have to cross back and forth across lines from Federal to state areas waters. The observer program is evolving and the trawl fleet is under increased scrutiny and pressure to avoid by catch we feel they're doing their best at this time.

**Minority Opinion:** Ms. Peterson supported increased observer coverage in high volume fisheries to provide data to accurately manage catch and by catch in state waters trawl fisheries. Council is currently discussing a new observer program which could be 100% coverage.

**BOF Proposal #101-** Close Alitak Bay to trawl and pot gear and subsistence for crab.

**Oppose-support 0-oppose 11.**

**Staff comments:** neutral on the allocation issues but opposed to reduced subsistence opportunity. Additional research and monitoring would be necessary to determine if reduced by catch from pot and trawl vessels or other environmental factors influence crab abundance in Alitak Bay. Closure would only affect inside 3 miles approximately 1/2 of the crab stocks reside outside 3 miles.

**Committee comments:** Support staff comments. This bay provides economic opportunity for pot crab and cod fishermen the trawl fleet as well as subsistence for local residents and other Kodiak Island residents. Crab stocks fluctuate over time there could well be enough recruitment to open a fishery before the seven year closure of the bay expired. Many committee members

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Julie Kavanaugh: Chairman

were concerned that the non harvest of the Pollock stocks could result in increased predation on juvenile crab and salmon fry thus further reducing the opportunity for the crab stocks to recover.  
**BOF Proposal #102-** Prohibit non-pelagic trawling in state waters of the Kodiak Management Area.

**Oppose-support 3-oppose 7-abstained 1.**

**Staff comments:** Neutral on allocation. Department doesn't have any specific data on impacts to crab stocks in this area.

**Committee comments:** There is a limited amount of trawl effort in this area. No by catch data available to base a closure on. The crab populations in adjacent areas that have been closed for 25 years haven't shown any recovery of the crab stocks. Something else beside trawling must be driving the population declines. Closing this limited trawl area won't bring back the crab stocks.

**Minority opinion:** Mr. Fields and Ms. Peterson felt that there wasn't much economic dependence on trawling in the area. Concerns over habitat and tanner crab populations warrant a closure to trawling.

**Written by: KAC Secretary Don Fox**

Seldovia Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 7, 2013

Meeting began at the Multi-Purpose room at 7:05 pm.

Members Present: Robert Purpura, Buck Brown, Dave Chartier, Matt Gallien, Keith Gain, Alvin Swick, Walt Sonen, Kelly Brennan, Allison Miller

Members Absent Excused: Bryan Chartier, Michael Opheim, Layla Pedersen, Mary Klinger

Public Present: Jordan Cameron, Keith Swick, John Viksiva, Jeane Merchant

Elections were held with the following results: Warren Brown and Keith Swick as one year alternates, and Keith Gain, Mary Klinger and Jordan Cameron as three year members.

Jason Herreman provided a report on wildlife populations and harvest records to date.

Sherry Wright provided a report on the Joint Board meeting.

**BOG Interior Region proposal discussion**

#	Action Requested	AC Vote to Support or Oppose, any amendments and committee discussion
130	085.045 (13) Re-authorize the antlerless moose season in a portion of Unit 15(C).	8 – 0 Support Department is interested in some targeted area hunting, due to increased road kill of moose.
175	Defines which ACs will have jurisdiction on the antlerless moose reauthorizations.	Will discuss at another meeting.

Carol Kerkvliet provided a report on the stocking program.

**BOF Lower Cook Inlet proposal discussion**

#	Action Requested	AC Vote to Support or Oppose, any amendments and committee discussion
43	<b>PROPOSAL XX - 5 AAC 28.36X. Cook Inlet Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan; 5 AAC 28.46X. Kodiak Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan; and 5 AAC 28.53X. Chignik Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan.</b> Create state-waters groundfish management plans for trawl vessels less than 58 feet in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>	0 – 8 Oppose Can't support any kind of trawling in state waters.



Seldovia Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 7, 2013

44	<b>5 AAC 28.36X. Cook Inlet Area Pollock Management Plan; 5 AAC 28.46X. Kodiak Area Pollock Management Plan; and 5 AAC 28.53X. Chignik Area Pollock Management Plan.</b> Create state-waters walleye pollock management plans for Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>	1 – 7 Oppose Support a Pollock fishery and would like to see a removal of Pollock in order to regain shrimp and crab populations. Mid-water Pollock fisheries are often prosecuted along the bottom. Would still like to see a plan. Trawling is not something they could support.
45	<b>5 AAC 28.4XX. New Section; 5 AAC 28.5XX. New Section; and 5 AAC 28.5XX. New Section.</b> Require 100 percent observer coverage on groundfish trawl vessels in state-waters of the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>	8 – 0 Support In the federal trawl season, vessels can still go within three miles and under federal law, they are only required to have % coverage. If they go into state waters, we would support 100% observer coverage.
46	<b>5 AAC 58.0XX. New Section.</b> Allow party fishing in Cook Inlet saltwater sport fisheries.	0 – 8 Oppose This used to be legal, then illegal and now a request to make legal again. This was so abused by deck hands to ensure people got their limits, that is why it was made illegal. If it was specific only to small children there would be some support. All others get their own.
48	<b>5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 58.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section.</b> Designate all waters where catch-and-release fishing occurs on salmon as single, unbaited, barbless-hook waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	7-1 Support If this can lower the mortality rate of people playing with the fish, it will benefit. Other states have barbless areas for catch and release fisheries. If the amount of time it takes to release a fish is a factor in mortality, it makes sense that a barbless hook is a better method. When an area has been designated as a catch and release area, there is a mortality related to the plague upon those fish. Areas have already been declared a problem, which is often why they become catch and release. Opposing view heard from the biologist that it doesn't make that significant difference and had several years of experience, agrees that the placement of the hook is the main mortality. Sport fishing hooks are pretty small compared to the commercial hooks.
54	<b>5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section.</b> Prohibit sport fishing in major spawning areas where spawning fish are present in Cook Inlet salmon waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	8-0 Support Seems like the only way from hooking fish and filleting them out is to close specific areas of the river. Witnessed video of people on Willow Creek using trout gear and hooking the kings over and over, dragging them out on the beach and releasing them. They were having a good old time and figured since they had trout gear on their poles they were good. This is just wrong.



Seldovia Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 7, 2013

55	5 AAC 56.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 57.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 58.024. Harvest record required; annual limits; 5 AAC 59.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area; 5 AAC 60.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; 5 AAC 61.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 62.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the West Cook Inlet Area. Decrease Cook Inlet king salmon annual limit to two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, of which only one can be from the Kenai River. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	0- 6 - 2 Oppose This proposal is unclear if they intend to include the winter fishery and for that reason oppose. This is a mixed stock fishery.
56	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Decrease the Cook Inlet saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one king salmon and reduce the annual limit to two king salmon. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	0 - 6 - 2 Oppose Same reasons as Proposal 55, two fish if pretty restrictive.
57	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 58.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Limit amount of sport-caught fish that may be exported to 100 pounds of fillets. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	1-7 Oppose This has come up before at Seldovia AC meetings. They are concerned with the amount of fish that seems to be shipped out of the state. The question of what about halibut came up. What does a person do with the remainder of the fish. If a person catches the fish, they should be able to keep it. Observance at the airport of many people that would travel to Alaska annually and return (financing their trip by the amount of fish they caught). Also people have observed so many people leaving at the airport with the biggest coolers and almost everyone at the airport carrying the same. It should be regulated from the how much you can catch end, not how much you can take out.
63	5 AAC 58.0XX. New Section. Allow use of sport-caught pink and chum salmon for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet.	7-1 Support The fishery doesn't need any more pressure. It would come out of their catch of the day.
65	5 AAC 58.0XX. New Section. Allow use of sport-caught spiny dogfish shark for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet.	8-0 Support Would like thin them out any way possible.
71	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.060. Lower Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan. Decrease the Lower Cook Inlet winter saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one fish, and establish an annual limit of two king salmon.	0-8 Oppose There is no justification for this. There are very few fish caught during the winter fishery.
73	5 AAC 77.545. Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery Management Plan. Require personal use-caught salmon in the China Poot dip net fishery to be marked.	7-0-1 Support This is to align this fishery with the other dipnet fishery regulations. There will still not be a permit required. In the spirit of making the regulations consistent it would be good for





Seldovia Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 7, 2013

		them all to be the same. There have been complaints about a free for all there. There are skiff loads of fish going out of there and no enforcement.
74	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.</b> Decrease lingcod bag and possession limit in Cook Inlet from two to one.	6-2 Support The charter industry may have a better idea of what is going on in the fishery as they are out there daily. 20 years ago nobody was catching ling cod in this area. Seems like their populations have increased in this area. If the limit is still 36 inches, would tend to believe there are still lots of little fish on their way. Having fished ling cods, there are always so many of them. Consideration that the Homer charter fleet is catering to their customers and if they are asking to self-police, they may have good reason. Prefer to be proactive.
76	<b>5 AAC 01.560. Fishing seasons and daily fishing periods.</b> Clarify open periods for subsistence salmon fishing in August in Seldovia Bay.	8 – 0 Support This will clarify which days are open for subsistence fish. This is housekeeping.
79	<b>5 AAC 21.350. Closed waters.</b> Close waters to commercial fishing within one statute mile of the terminus of any anadromous fish stream in Cook Inlet as measured from mean lower low tide, not mean high tide. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	0-8 Oppose This is an anti-commercial fishing proposal.
80	<b>5 AAC 21.350. Closed waters.</b> Amend waters closed to commercial fishing in Lower Cook Inlet.	Tabled at the meeting for Robert to obtain further information. Robert spoke to Glen Hollowell, relayed his information to the members and we are all in agreement of <b>support</b> for Proposal 80. This is the fourth time that we discussed this issue. They are just trying to clarify where these boundaries are. They started with visible markers, then went to GPS long/lats. Each time they changed the way they marked the fishery, the fishery moved. The regulatory marker disintegrates and a variety of things. People assumed things were going to be business as usual but they weren't. The committee would like to get more information on this. Did anyone put boots on the ground to see where those coordinates actually are? Tabled to get more information and will poll the committee.
81	<b>5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations; 5 AAC 21.332. Seine specifications and operations; and 5 AAC 27.410. Fishing seasons for Cook Inlet Area.</b> Establish various management measures to address decline in returning king salmon to Cook Inlet, including requiring net gear be certified as avoiding king salmon interception and closing commercial herring fisheries. <i>(The finfish aspects of this proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet meetings. The king and Tanner crab aspects of this proposal will be considered during the Statewide king and Tanner Crab meeting.)</i>	0-8 Oppose There is no such thing as a certifiable set net gear that avoids king salmon. This is another anti-commercial fishing proposal.



Seldovia Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 7, 2013

82	<b>5 AAC 21.XXX. Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery Management Plan.</b> Create a management plan for Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA) and describe the location of the Tutka Bay Lagoon, Paint River, and Halibut Cove Lagoon SHAs.	8 – 0 Support Support the hatchery's cost recovery prioritization. This is similar to how they operate PWS. Believe the Cook Inlet Aquaculture puts a lot of thought into their work.
83	<b>5 AAC 21.377. Port Graham Salmon Hatchery Management Plan.</b> Modify management plan for Port Graham Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA) and describe the location of the SHA.	8 – 0 Support Same comments as Proposal 82.
84	<b>5 AAC 21.373. Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery Management Plan.</b> Create a management plan for Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA); describe the location of the Bear Lake, China Poot and Hazel Lake, Tutka Bay Lagoon, and Kirchner Lake SHAs; and define fishing seasons within the SHAs.	8 – 0 Support Same comments as Proposal 82.
87	<b>5 AAC 28.371. Landing requirements for Cook Inlet Area.</b> Modify offloading requirements for groundfish.	Kelly Brennan had to leave 7 – 0 Support This gives you some leeway so if a processor is unable to take care of everyone within 24 hours. This eliminates the need to ask for that exemption.

Next meeting will be Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the Multi-purpose room to finalize LCI proposals (Prop 81), determine if a representative will be attending the BOF LCI meeting in Anchorage and begin discussion of UCI BOF proposals.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.



FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3305

NOV. 06 2013 06:15PM P1

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

RECEIVED

NOV 06 2013

BOARDS  
ANCHORAGEAC NAME: Central PeninsulaLOCATION (town): NiilchikDATE (of meeting): 10/15/2013MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve VANEK, David Martin,  
RION VANEK, Mike Schuster, Bob Lucas,  
John McCombs, Gary Deiman, Tiffany Stonecipher,  
Daren Berger, Jeff Banger

MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED:

Greg GuschawskiNorbert Miller

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSED:

QUORUM PRESENT: YES X NO     AGENCY STAFF PRESENT: NONE - they were contacted  
but Dept. didn't have their comments ready and  
the local biologist can't have an opinion without approval.Time Meeting Called to Order: 7:05 PM

Old Business and New Business (See following pages)

Time Meeting <sup>Recessed</sup> Adjourned: 10:15 PM Till Oct. 22, 2013Steve VaneK  
Signature, Committee Secretary

FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3306

NOV. 06 2013 06:16PM P2

# STATE OF ALASKA

Central Peninsula Fish & Game  
Advisory Committee

Sean Parnell, Governor

David Martin, Chair  
PO Box 468  
Clam Gulch, AK 99568  
907-567-3306  
dmartin@alaska.net

## Minutes - 10/15/2013

- ① Minutes of last meeting read & approved
- ② announcement - Bill Walker will have a meet & greet at Paradisos - 4-6 pm Thurs, Oct. 17, 2013
- ③ David Martin - Reviewed the B.F work session which he attended, Met new Board member, Fritz Johnson
- ④ Jan. 14, 2014 will be elections for AC Members.
- ⑤ Lower Cook Inlet Board meeting at Egan Center in Anchorage Dec. 8-11. Comments due by Nov. 19.
- ⑥ Steve Vanet moved; seconded by John McCombs, that David Martin or his designee be our Rep. at the Lower Cook Inlet meeting.
- ⑦ - we began proposals on Lower Cook Inlet.
- ⑧ Recessed at 10:15 PM until next Tues. Oct. 22, 2013.



FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3306

NOV. 06 2013 06:16PM P3

# STATE OF ALASKA

Central Peninsula Fish & Game  
Advisory Committee

Sean Parnell, Governor

David Martin, Chair  
PO Box 468  
Clam Gulch, AK 99568  
907-567-3306  
dmartin@alaska.net

Oct. 15, 2013

Steve Vanek  
David R Martin

Jeanne Vanek

Mike Scheister  
Jill C. Cress

John McCon

Gary Deima

Tiffany Stoney

Ann J. Berger

Gill F. B.

Serving the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of Game  
Boards Support Section, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99518-1565



NDU, 06 2013 06:17PM P4

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3306

FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

## Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013

Central Pen Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

#	Action Requested	AC Support or Oppose and comments
43	<b>PROPOSAL XX - 5 AAC 28.36X.</b> Cook Inlet Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan; <b>5 AAC 28.46X.</b> Kodiak Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan; and <b>5 AAC 28.53X.</b> Chignik Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan. Create state-waters groundfish management plans for trawl vessels less than 58 feet in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. (This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)	Failed ~ 10-0 Since it is only for these areas we oppose. Should be statewide
44	<b>5 AAC 28.36X.</b> Cook Inlet Area Pollock Management Plan; <b>5 AAC 28.46X.</b> Kodiak Area Pollock Management Plan; and <b>5 AAC 28.53X.</b> Chignik Area Pollock Management Plan. Create state-waters walleye pollock management plans for Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. (This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)	Failed 10-0 There are concerns about kings being caught.
45	<b>5 AAC 28.4XX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 28.5XX.</b> New Section; and <b>5 AAC 28.5XX.</b> New Section. Require 100 percent observer coverage on groundfish trawl vessels in state-waters of the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. (This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)	passed 10-0 if trawling is allowed there should be 100% observer coverage
46	<b>5 AAC 58.0XX.</b> New Section. Allow party fishing in Cook Inlet saltwater sport fisheries,	Failed 10-0

This would set a bad precedent, just because many do it is no reason to condone it.

AC 5  
4 of 14

NOV. 06 2013 06:17PM PS

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3305

FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013  
Central Peninsula Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

47	<p>5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 59.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainage Area; 5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainage Area; 5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 62.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Prohibit use of barbed hooks while sport fishing for salmon in Cook Inlet fresh waters. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Fish meetings.)</p>	<p><u>Passed</u> <u>8 yes</u> <u>2 no</u>          Barbless hooks reduces C&amp;R mortalities somewhat. In many current sport fisheries the catch and release (C&amp;R) mortality is larger than the harvest. With new information on the total C&amp;R mortalities, by following the salmon to determine if it spawned or not and the viability of the spawn &amp; Fry, questions F&amp;G <del>data</del> mortality numbers as being low by 5 to 6 times and the real mortality numbers jeopardizes the salmon runs and future production. Oregon &amp; Washington uses single, barbless <sup>hooks</sup> the upper Kenai rainbow fishery &amp; the lower Peninsula steelhead fishery use single hook barbless or single hook.</p>
48	<p>5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 58.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Designate all waters where catch-and-release fishing occurs on salmon as single, unbaited, barbless-hook waters. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Fish meetings.)</p>	<p><u>Passed</u> <u>10 yes</u> <u>0 no</u>          See Prop. 47 comments and agree with issue!</p>

FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3306

NOV. 06 2013 06:18PM P6

## Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013

Central Peninsula Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

49	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 58.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Establish criteria to designate waters in Cook Inlet as single, unbaited, barbless hooks waters. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	<u>Passed</u> <u>10 yes</u> <u>0 no</u> <u>See comment on Prop. 47</u> <u>Agree with the what will happen if nothing is done! comments.</u>
50	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for coho salmon in all Cook Inlet fresh waters. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	<u>Passed</u> <u>8 yes</u> <u>2 no</u> <u>No's wanted no change.</u> <u>This provides sport fishing opportunity and harvest for food and eliminates the waste from catch &amp; release mortality. Coho are more acceptable to C&amp;R mortality, up to 70%, than other salmon. 70% mortality can devastate small coho tributaries.</u>
51	5 AAC 58.030. Methods, means, and general provisions - Finfish. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for coho salmon in the Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.	<u>Passed</u> <u>7 yes</u> <u>3 no</u> <u>See comments Prop. #50</u>
52	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for salmon in all Cook Inlet fresh waters. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	<u>Passed</u> <u>8 yes</u> <u>2 no</u> <u>See issue! comments and who is likely to benefit: this creates a responsible sport fishery and greatly reduces waste. This provides food. New C&amp;R mortality data shows high number - C&amp;R salmon don't spawn. No's wanted to keep catch &amp; release fishing.</u>
53	5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Prohibit anglers who are releasing a fish from removing the head of a fish out of the water. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	<u>Failed</u> <u>0 yes</u> <u>10 no</u> <u>Concept is good but not a practical solution. It is better to not have catch &amp; release. There are many stress related factors to C&amp;R mortality even when the head is not taken out of the water. Lactic Acid builds up etc.</u>





Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013

Central Pen

Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

54	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Prohibit sport fishing in major spawning areas where spawning fish are present in Cook Inlet salmon waters. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	<u>Passed 10-0</u> This makes so much sense, how could any body be opposed. Fisherys that have seasons are prohibited from fishing during spawning. Only salmon are allowed to be harvested in their spawn areas
55	5 AAC 56.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 57.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 58.024. Harvest record required; annual limits; 5 AAC 59.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area; 5 AAC 60.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; 5 AAC 61.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 62.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the West Cook Inlet Area. Decrease Cook Inlet king salmon annual limit to two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, of which only one can be from the Kenai River. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	<u>Failed 10-0</u> If necessary; bag limit can be reduced by E.O. or a fishery can be closed by E.O. as state management dictates. Leave it at <del>25</del> 15.
56	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Decrease the Cook Inlet saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one king salmon and reduce the annual limit to two king salmon. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	<u>Failed 10-0</u> See proposal <u>55</u>



Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013

Central Pen Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

57	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 58.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Limit amount of sport-caught fish that may be exported to 100 pounds of filets. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	<u>Passed 10-0</u> This has been brought up many times. It is time to do this now. Alaska is the only place that allows the exploitation of its fishery resource to such a degree. It is a sad state of affairs to have freezers full of fish leave the state or boxes of filets at the airport.
58	5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Close Anchor River to sport fishing on Wednesdays.	<u>Passed 10-0</u> It has been closed by E.O. CAN Wed. for a good reason. It should not have been opened in the first place.
59	5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Delay reopening Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Stariski Creek to sport fishing by two weeks.	<u>Passed as amended 10-0</u> Amended to include Ninilchik River also as Kings are still entering Ninilchik River and need to be protected. <u>Passed 10-0</u>
60	5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Modify sport fishing season to allow fishing during November and December on Lower Cook Inlet streams.	<u>Passed 10-0</u> It used to be opened. will not affect steelhead since no fishing above 2 mile marker except for dollies. will not have much affect when rivers are ice covered.
61	5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Reduce king salmon bag and possession limit to one fish on the Ninilchik River.	<u>Tie 5-yes; 5-no</u> yes votes - hook and release on wild kings causes mortality. after a wild salmon is caught an angler can still fish for a hatchery fish. no votes - felt that fishery is enhanced so hatchery fish can be caught even if a wild salmon has to be released.



NOV. 06 2013 05:20PM P9

PHONE NO. : 907 557 3306

FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013  
Central Pen Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

62	SAAC 62.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Change the Clearwater Creek drainage closed-waters boundary description for sport fishing.	Passed - 10-0 house keeping.
63	SAAC 58.0XX. New Section. Allow use of sport-caught pink and chum salmon for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet.	Failed - 1-9-1 People are not confused, different areas have different regulations all the time. Pink and chums are a food fish. Should not encourage as bait.
64	SAAC 58.0XX. New Section. Allow use of sport-caught pink salmon for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet.	No action - see proposal 63
65	SAAC 58.0XX. New Section. Allow use of sport-caught spiny dogfish shark for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet.	Passed 10-0 since there is no directed food fish on there, they could be used for bait.
66	SAAC 58.030. Methods, means, and general provisions - Florkish. Allow use of archery gear for sport fishing in Cook Inlet salt waters.	Failed 1 yes - 9 no yes vote wanted the opportunity, no votes felt that there was really no fish that could be shot with an arrow. Also new gear type should not be introduced
67	SAAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and SAAC 58.035. Upper Cook Inlet Salt Water Early-run King Salmon Management Plan. Relocate the Bluff Point marker north to the southern Anchor River marker for management of Upper Cook Inlet saltwater early-run king salmon sport fishery.	failed 10-0 leave it as is. GPS points are easily identified. Most boats now have GPS equipment.

8-11, 2013  
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 is resolved. There are  
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 now only 9 left.  
 sea is popular because  
 nit. This proposal is too

NK Bear Creek coho should  
 is a put and take, no  
 if straying if any.

FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3306

NOV. 06 2013 06:20PM P10

## Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013

Control Pen

## Fish &amp; Game Advisory Committee comments

68	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Salt Water Early-run King Salmon Management Plan. Relocate the Bluff Point marker north to the southern Anchor River marker for management of Cook Inlet king salmon sport fishery.	<u>NO action - see #67</u>
69	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Salt Water Early-run King Salmon Management Plan. Modify the Upper Cook Inlet saltwater early-run king salmon season to end on June 24 instead of June 30.	<u>Failed 10-0</u> Maintain the current regulations until low king run issue is resolved. There are still kings going into Deep Creek at this time which are not later run kings
70	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.060. Lower Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan. Modify the date king salmon apply to the annual limit in the Lower Cook Inlet winter saltwater king salmon fishery from April 1 to May 1.	<u>Failed 10-0</u> Leave it as is until low king salmon issue changes. There will be some spawning kings present in Kachemak Bay after April 1st because some are caught at Ninilchik in April.
71	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.060. Lower Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan. Decrease the Lower Cook Inlet winter saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one fish, and establish an annual limit of two king salmon.	<u>Failed 9-0</u> (one person had to leave so now only 9 left.) The winter king season is popular because there is no season limit. This proposal is too restrictive.
72	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Eliminate the third Saturday in August (late-run coho) from the youth-only fishery in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon.	<u>Failed - 9-0</u> we think Bear Creek coho should again be used. This is a put and take, no spawning and minimal straying if any.



NOV. 05 2013 06:21PM P11

PHONE NO. : 907 567 1365

FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

## Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013

Central Peninsula Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

73	SAAC 77.545. Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery Management Plan. Require personal use-caught salmon in the China Pool dip net fishery to be marked,	<u>Passed</u> <u>9 yes</u> <u>0 no</u> Agree with Depart. we thought they had to mark them already.
74	SAAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Decrease lingcod bag and possession limit in Cook Inlet from two to one,	<u>Passed</u> <u>7 yes</u> <u>2 no</u> Lingcod are slow growing and the sport pressure and harvest have increase dramatically in the last five years. More charters are targeting lingcod and Rock fish. No votes felt one is not enough.
75	SAAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Change the lingcod sport fishing season to begin on June 1 instead of July 1,	<u>Failed</u> <u>3 yes</u> <u>6 no</u> Kings are depleted, near shore halibut are depleted now they want to deplete slow growing lingcod. Yes votes wanted earlier opening.
76	SAAC 01.560. Fishing seasons and daily fishing periods. Clarify open periods for subsistence salmon fishing in August in Seldovia Bay, as follows:	<u>Passed</u> <u>9 yes</u> <u>0 no</u> house keeping
77	SAAC 21.200. Fishing districts, subdistricts, and sections. Change line and descriptions separating the Port Dick North and South sections in the Outer District,	<u>N/D Action</u> we don't know enough about it & don't want to stick our noses in LCI School's business.
78	SAAC 21.200. Fishing districts, subdistricts, and sections. Remove the "300 yards offshore" reference, and remove references to regulatory markers and replace with latitude and longitude coordinates for certain waters,	<u>Failed</u> <u>0 yes</u> <u>9 no</u> Department should fund the placement of regulatory markers. The markers work well for a visual image for fishermen & enforcement. A lot of signing is done with Jittney which are work skiffs & absent GPS & other electronics.
79	SAAC 21.350. Closed waters. Close waters to commercial fishing within one statute mile of the terminus of any anadromous fish stream in Cook Inlet as measured from mean lower low tide, not mean high tide. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Fishery meetings.)	<u>Failed</u> <u>0 yes</u> <u>9 no</u> This would close much if not all of the west side to commercial fishing and revert back to unmanageable and unenforceable regulations. The current regulations for the W. side were developed by F&G enforcement and commercial fishermen and approved by the BOF to resolve unique problems the extensive mud flats creates. The current plan resolved these problems and created an orderly & manageable fishery for both enforcement and the commercial fishermen. Coho stocks are healthy and harvested well below harvestable exploitation rates. The 70% coho CQR mortality occurring every day in these waters and small streams are subject to demolishing the coho spawners and future production.



FROM : DAVID R MARTIN PHONE NO. : 907 567 3366 NOV. 06 2013 06:23PM P12

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013  
*Central Peninsula* Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

73	SAAC 77.545. Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery Management Plan. Require personal use-caught salmon in the China Pool dip net fishery to be marked, as follows:	
74	SAAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Decrease lingcod bag and possession limit in Cook Inlet from two to one, as follows:	
75	SAAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Change the lingcod sport fishing season to begin on June 1 instead of July 1, as follows:	
76	SAAC 01.560. Fishing seasons and daily fishing periods. Clarify open periods for subsistence salmon fishing in August in Seldovia Bay, as follows:	
77	SAAC 21.200. Fishing districts, subdistricts, and sections. Change line and descriptions separating the Port Dick North and South sections in the Outer District, as follows:	
78	SAAC 21.200. Fishing districts, subdistricts, and sections. Remove the "300 yards offshore" reference, and remove references to regulatory markers and replace with latitude and longitude coordinates for certain waters, as follows:	
79	SAAC 21.350. Closed waters. Close waters to commercial fishing within one statute mile of the terminus of any anadromous fish stream in Cook Inlet as measured from mean lower low tide, not mean high tide. (This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)	
80	SAAC 21.350. Closed waters. Amend waters closed to commercial fishing in Lower Cook Inlet	<i>Failed. Over 9 no. should use physical markers. GPS use on short jetties is problematic. A physical marker is constant visual aid when working on deck &amp; not monitoring a GPS.</i>



FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3306

NOV. 06 2013 06:22PM P13

## Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013

Central Pen Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

81	SAAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations; 5 AAC 21.332. Seine specifications and operations; and 5 AAC 27.410. Fishing seasons for Cook Inlet Area. Establish various management measures to address decline in returning king salmon to Cook Inlet, including requiring net gear be certified as avoiding king salmon interception and closing commercial herring fisheries. (The finfish aspects of this proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet meetings. The king and Tanner crab aspects of this proposal will be considered during the Statewide king and Tanner Crab meeting.)	Failed 9-0	This proposal does not address king salmon problems in River such as hook and release, fishing in spawning beds, sorting through kings to get the largest. King salmon decline problems are not just in the ocean but are exasperated by in River management. What about sockeye starvation in lakes caused by overescapement?
82	SAAC 21.XXX. Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery Management Plan. Create a management plan for Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA) and describe the location of the Tutka Bay Lagoon, Paint River, and Halibut Cove Lagoon SHAs.	passed - 9-0	This clarifies the special Harvest Area
83	SAAC 21.377. Port Graham Salmon Hatchery Management Plan. Modify management plan for Port Graham Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA) and describe the location of the SHA,	passed 9-0	see #82
84	SAAC 21.373. Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery Management Plan. Create a management plan for Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA); describe the location of the Bear Lake, China Foot and Hazel Lake, Tutka Bay Lagoon, and Kirchner Lake SHAs; and define fishing seasons within the SHAs,	passed 9-0	see # 82



NOV. 06 2013 06:23PM P14

PHONE NO. : 907 567 3306

FROM : DAVID R MARTIN

## Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 - 11, 2013

Central Pen

## Fish &amp; Game Advisory Committee comments

85	SAAC 21.376. Resurrection Bay Salmon Management Plan and 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Prohibit sport fishing in Resurrection River until the Bear Lake sockeye salmon broodstock goal is met.	passed 9-0	Cook Inlet Agriculture Association has not achieved their egg take goal in the past & the natural escapement of 10,000 fish has not been met in the past before the newly created sockeye fishery was implemented. If CIAA doesn't get eggs or cost recovery money to continue the stocking then the program goes away. There would not be a sports fishery then because the natural sockeye production doesn't produce enough. Also could jeopardize the ability for CIAA to raise lake smelt for the City of Homer since salmon derby.
86	5 AAC 28.332. Groundfish pot storage requirements for Cook Inlet. Modify Cook Inlet groundfish pot storage requirements.	NO ACTION	not enough information and NO AD F+G personnel available
87	5 AAC 28.371. Landing requirements for Cook Inlet Area. Modify offloading requirements for groundfish.	NO ACTION	see # 86





Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 – 11, 2013  
Homer Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

The Homer Fish & Game Advisory Committee met on October 8<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of discussing BOF LCI proposals. They also met on November 12<sup>th</sup> and took up Prop 74.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

**Members Present:** Michael Craig, David Bayes, Tom Hagberg, Dave Lyon, Lee Martin, George Matz, Marvin Peters, Gary Sinnhuber, Dennis Wade, Jim Meesis, Gus Van Dyke.

**Members Not Present:** Ty Gates, Joey Allred, Pete Wedin, Tom Young

**Public Present:** Beaver Nelson, Malcolm Milne

**Agency Staff Present:** Jason Herremen (ADF&G), Roger MacCambell (Div. of Parks)

The committee approved Dave Lyon to attend the BOF LCI meeting as their representative.

#	Action Requested	AC Support or Oppose and comments
43	<b>PROPOSAL XX - 5 AAC 28.36X. Cook Inlet Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan; 5 AAC 28.46X. Kodiak Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan; and 5 AAC 28.53X. Chignik Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan.</b> Create state-waters groundfish management plans for trawl vessels less than 58 feet in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support – 0, Opposed – 11  This is taking money from other fisheries and giving it to a new fishery.  Moved by Lee, seconded by Michael
44	<b>5 AAC 28.36X. Cook Inlet Area Pollock Management Plan; 5 AAC 28.46X. Kodiak Area Pollock Management Plan; and 5 AAC 28.53X. Chignik Area Pollock Management Plan.</b> Create state-waters walleye pollock management plans for Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support – 0, Opposed – 11  This is taking money from other fisheries and giving it to a new fishery.  Moved by Michael, seconded by Thomas.
46	<b>5 AAC 58.0XX. New Section.</b> Allow party fishing in Cook Inlet saltwater sport fisheries, as follows:	Support -1, Opposed – 7, Abstain -2.  This amounts to creating a loophole that is not fair to fishermen who play by the rules.  Moved by Michael, seconded by Thomas

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**NOV 19 2013**

**BOARDS  
ANCHORAGE**



Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 – 11, 2013  
Homer Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

47	5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 59.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area; 5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; 5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 62.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Prohibit use of barbed hooks while sport fishing for salmon in Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support – 0, Opposed – 9, Abstain -2.  Poorly written and poor use of data. Need better science.  Moved by Michael, Seconded by Thomas.
48	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 58.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Designate all waters where catch-and-release fishing occurs on salmon as single, unbaited, barbless-hook waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support - 0, Opposed – 10, Abstain - 1  Poorly written and questionable interpretation of data.  Moved by Michael and seconded by Thomas.
49	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 58.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Establish criteria to designate waters in Cook Inlet as single, unbaited, barbless hooks waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support – 1, Opposed – 9  Support -1, Opposed – 9  Moved by Michael and seconded by Thomas.
50	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for coho salmon in all Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support – 6, Opposed – 1, Abstain – 4  We think the mortality data is not correct, but support the concept.  Moved by Michael and seconded by Thomas.
51	5 AAC 58.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for coho salmon in the Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area, as follows:	Support – 0, Opposed – 10, Abstain -1  No one does this.  Moved by Michael and seconded by Thomas.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet meeting December 8 – 11, 2013  
Homer Fish & Game Advisory Committee comments

52	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for salmon in all Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Amendment by Michael and seconded by Thomas Including steelhead which are in same genus as our other five species of salmon. Support – 9, Opposed -2 Amended proposal Support – 6, Opposed – 4, Abstain -1
53	5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Prohibit anglers who are releasing a fish from removing the head of a fish out of the water. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support – 10, Abstain -1
54	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Prohibit sport fishing in major spawning areas where spawning fish are present in Cook Inlet salmon waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support -2, Opposed – 2, Abstain – 7  The proposal is not specific enough as to what is a major spawning area. Abstain votes wanted more specific details.  Moved by Marvin and seconded by Thomas
55	5 AAC 56.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 57.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 58.024. Harvest record required; annual limits; 5 AAC 59.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area; 5 AAC 60.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; 5 AAC 61.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 62.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the West Cook Inlet Area. Decrease Cook Inlet king salmon annual limit to two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, of which only one can be from the Kenai River. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support – 0, Opposed – 10, Abstain -1  Too restrictive and would not allow winter king fishery.  Moved by Michael
56	5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Decrease the Cook Inlet saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one king salmon and reduce the annual limit to two king salmon. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Support – 0, Opposed – 10, Abstain -1  Too restrictive and would not allow winter king fishery.  Moved by Michael
58	5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Close Anchor River to sport fishing on Wednesdays, as follows:	Support – 10, Opposed – 0, Abstain -1.  Moved by Marvin and seconded by Michael



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59	<b>5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Delay reopening Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Stariski Creek to sport fishing by two weeks, as follows:</b>	Support – 3, Opposed – 6, Abstain – 2  ADF&G can use EO's to accomplish the same thing. We favor solution #1.  Moved by Gary and seconded by Michael
60	<b>5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Modify sport fishing season to allow fishing during November and December on Lower Cook Inlet streams, as follows:</b>	Support – 0, Opposed – 11  Moved by Marvin and seconded by Michael
61	<b>5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Reduce king salmon bag and possession limit to one fish on the Ninilichik River, as follows:</b>	Support – 11, Opposed – 0  Moved by Michael and seconded by Marvin
63	<b>5 AAC 58.0XX. New Section. Allow use of sport-caught pink and chum salmon for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet, as follows:</b>	Support – 9, Opposed – 0, Abstain – 3  Moved by Michael and seconded by Thomas
65	<b>5 AAC 58.0XX. New Section. Allow use of sport-caught spiny dogfish shark for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet, as follows:</b>	Support – 10, Abstain – 1  Moved by Michael and seconded by David
66	<b>5 AAC 58.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish. Allow use of archery gear for sport fishing in Cook Inlet salt waters, as follows:</b>	Support – 10, Opposed – 0  Moved by Dave and seconded by Dennis
67	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Salt Water Early-run King Salmon Management Plan. Relocate the Bluff Point marker north to the southern Anchor River marker for management of Upper Cook Inlet saltwater early-run king salmon sport fishery, as follows:</b>	Correction needed for proposal Delete: Relocate the Bluff Point marker north to the southern Anchor River marker for management of Upper Cook Inlet saltwater early-run king salmon sport fishery, as follows:  Support – 11, Opposes – 0  Moved by Michael and seconded by Dennis
68	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Salt Water Early-run King Salmon Management Plan. Relocate the Bluff Point marker north to the southern Anchor River marker for management of Cook Inlet king salmon sport fishery, as follows:</b>	Support – 0, Opposed – 10  Not recommended  Moved by Thomas and seconded by Michael
70	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.060. Lower Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan. Modify the date king salmon apply to the annual limit in the Lower Cook Inlet winter saltwater king salmon fishery from April 1 to May 1, as follows:</b>	Support – 0, Opposed – 11  This would allow fishing for kings when spawning kings are in the vicinity.



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71	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.060. Lower Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan.</b> Decrease the Lower Cook Inlet winter saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one fish, and establish an annual limit of two king salmon, as follows:	Support – 0, Opposed – 11  There is no correlation between winter kings and kings hat return to spawn in the area.  Moved by Marvin and seconded by Michael
72	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.</b> Eliminate the third Saturday in August (late-run coho) from the youth-only fishery in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon, as follows:	Support 10, Opposed – 0, Abstain – 1  Moved by Michael and seconded by Dennis
73	<b>5 AAC 77.545. Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery Management Plan.</b> Require personal use-caught salmon in the China Poot dip net fishery to be marked, as follows:	Support – 11, Opposition – 0  Moved by Michael and seconded by Lee
74	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.</b> Decrease lingcod bag and possession limit in Cook Inlet from two to one, as follows:	Support 3 – Oppose 6 – Abstain 1  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Exploitation of lingcod currently considered low by ADFG</li> <li>o Habitat and Age distribution considered healthy</li> <li>o Said that ADFG would oppose this proposition based upon decreased angler access to the resource.</li> </ul>
75	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.</b> Change the lingcod sport fishing season to begin on June 1 instead of July 1, as follows:	Support – 0, Opposed – 10  Moved by Michael and seconded by David
77	<b>5 AAC 21.200. Fishing districts, subdistricts, and sections.</b> Change line and descriptions separating the Port Dick North and South sections in the Outer District, as follows:	Support – 11, Opposed – 0  Logical change.  Moved by Michael and seconded by Lee
78	<b>5 AAC 21.200. Fishing districts, subdistricts, and sections.</b> Remove the "300 yards offshore" reference, and remove references to regulatory markers and replace with latitude and longitude coordinates for certain waters, as follows:	Support – 11, Opposed – 0  Moved by Dave and seconded by Dennis
82	<b>5 AAC 21.XXX. Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery Management Plan.</b> Create a management plan for Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA) and describe the location of the Tutka Bay Lagoon, Paint River, and Halibut Cove Lagoon SHAs, as follows:	Amendment by Thomas to delete #3 relating to Halibut Cove Lagoon Support 10, Opposed – 0. On amended proposal Support – 9, Abstain – 1.



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Meeting began at 7 pm at the Cooper Landing community building on Bean Creek Road.

Members Present: George Heim, Kyle Kolodziejski, John Pearson, Gerald Neis, William Shuster

Members Absent Excused: Ed Holsten, Robert Gibson, Mike Adams, Dr James Givens (resigned)

Members Absent Unexcused: Billy Coulliette, Erick Fish

Elections were held with the following results: Robert Gibson, Bill Shuster and Alex Kime were elected to serve three year member seats. Mike Adams was moved to serve as an Alternate.

**Lower Cook Inlet BOF proposal comments**

#	Action Requested	AC Vote to Support or Oppose, any amendments and committee discussion
43	<b>PROPOSAL XX - 5 AAC 28.36X. Cook Inlet Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan; 5 AAC 28.46X. Kodiak Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan; and 5 AAC 28.53X. Chignik Area State-Waters Groundfish Trawl Management Plan.</b> Create state-waters groundfish management plans for trawl vessels less than 58 feet in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>	0-6 Oppose Concern of king by-catch was expressed. Would a trawl fishery be sustainable in Cook Inlet? This would be another impact on halibut – we have recently heard discussion of limiting halibut harvest to one per person. Whatever comes up out of that net comes up dead.  <b>RECEIVED</b> <b>NOV 18 2013</b>
44	<b>5 AAC 28.36X. Cook Inlet Area Pollock Management Plan; 5 AAC 28.46X. Kodiak Area Pollock Management Plan; and 5 AAC 28.53X. Chignik Area Pollock Management Plan.</b> Create state-waters walleye pollock management plans for Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>	0-6 Oppose Same comments as Proposal 43  <b>BOARDS ANCHORAGE</b>
45	<b>5 AAC 28.4XX. New Section; 5 AAC 28.5XX. New Section; and 5 AAC 28.5XX. New Section.</b> Require 100 percent observer coverage on groundfish trawl vessels in state-waters of the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>	6-0 The committee opposed trawling fishing in Cook Inlet, but if there was such a fishery, it should have 100% observance coverage.
46	<b>5 AAC 58.0XX. New Section.</b> Allow party fishing in Cook Inlet saltwater sport fisheries.	5-1 Support Little kids need help hooking their fish. It is already abused to a certain extent. Some of the senior citizens also get exhausted very quickly. Doesn't believe it is going to impact the overall fishery. The guided vessels are getting hammered on and the non-guided vessels are also doing this. The sooner people get their fish, the sooner they can move off the good spots. One member stated the only way he can fish is by proxy and you can't harvest halibut by proxy. There should be some age for



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		children (a person could bring an infant on a boat in order to get two more fish). Someone would also have to be watching the infant rather than fishing.
47	<p><b>5 AAC 56.120.</b> General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area; <b>5 AAC 57.120.</b> General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area; <b>5 AAC 59.120.</b> General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area; <b>5 AAC 60.120.</b> General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; <b>5 AAC 61.110.</b> General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area; and <b>5 AAC 62.120.</b> General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Prohibit use of barbed hooks while sport fishing for salmon in Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i></p>	<p>0-6 Oppose</p> <p>This is crazy. If the issue is mortality, barbless or not there is no difference. Would be tempted to amend to pertain only to rainbow trout, which this committee has proposed in the past. If you are going to catch and release (not many people do that) they should use barbless hooks to allow easier release. This is too broad in where they are trying to apply this regulation.</p>
48	<p><b>5 AAC 56.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 57.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 58.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 59.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 60.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 61.XXX.</b> New Section; and <b>5 AAC 62.XXX.</b> New Section. Designate all waters where catch-and-release fishing occurs on salmon as single, unbaited, barbless-hook waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i></p>	<p>0-6 Oppose</p> <p>This is also too broad. Doesn't believe 95,000 kings were caught and released in Cook Inlet and don't know where those numbers came from.</p>
49	<p><b>5 AAC 56.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 57.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 58.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 59.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 60.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 61.XXX.</b> New Section; and <b>5 AAC 62.XXX.</b> New Section. Establish criteria to designate waters in Cook Inlet as single, unbaited, barbless hooks waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i></p>	<p>Same comments as Proposal 48.</p>
50	<p><b>5 AAC 56.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 57.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 59.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 60.XXX.</b> New Section; <b>5 AAC 61.XXX.</b> New Section; and <b>5 AAC 62.XXX.</b> New Section. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for coho salmon in all Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i></p>	<p>Final vote on amended proposal 0-6 Opposed</p> <p>AMENDMENT: applied to the lower portion of the stream only</p> <p>Vote on the amendment -- 5 - 1</p> <p>The mortality decreases the further upstream the fish go. The fish are more vulnerable when they first enter the system. If this was applied to the lower 10-20 mile portions of the streams it would make more sense. The sockeye season is worse than this of people hammering the fish. There needs to be some ability to catch and release for fish that are getting spawned out. If people can only catch two fish, as soon as they get their 2<sup>nd</sup> fish, they move off the area, allowing others to fish. Would support lower 20 miles on the Kenai (it will vary depending on the river system). There's more information needed for where to apply this and would look to the manager's to determine that.</p>



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		The issue is too complicated.
51	5 AAC 58.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for coho salmon in the Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.	0-6 Oppose Don't know of a study that establishes mortality of salt water catch and release fishing. Would tend to believe it would be a lower number. There is such a high predator/prey in the salt water, if you put an exhausted fish back in the water, they are more likely to become food for another fish. Silver salmon derby is another point – how would they continue doing that? If they are hatchery fish, they don't really have a problem.
52	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for salmon in all Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	Same comment as Proposal 50
53	5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Prohibit anglers who are releasing a fish from removing the head of a fish out of the water. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	1-5 Oppose This committee submitted a similar proposal for rainbow trout that was not approved. Practicality doesn't work. Don't want to see people get ticketed when they are trying to do the right thing to release a fish. Discussion about the mortality if the head doesn't come out of the water. People that regularly fish are better at releasing and more organized for those picture opportunities – the weekend warriors are the ones that create a problem. Planning is important.
54	5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section. Prohibit sport fishing in major spawning areas where spawning fish are present in Cook Inlet salmon waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	0-6 Oppose That would be the entire Russian River and almost all of the Upper Kenai.
55	5 AAC 56.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 57.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 58.024. Harvest record required; annual limits; 5 AAC 59.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area; 5 AAC 60.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; 5 AAC 61.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 62.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the West Cook Inlet Area. Decrease Cook Inlet king salmon annual limit to two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, of which only one can be from the Kenai River. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	0-6 Oppose This may actually make sense. Not sure if it would hurt the guides. Those that may fish a couple of days may be hurt. Concern that this could cause an increase of catch and release fishing.





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56	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.</b> Decrease the Cook Inlet saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one king salmon and reduce the annual limit to two king salmon. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	0 - 6 Oppose This proposal asks that a king not be removed at all from salt water, which would be impossible to release.
57	<b>5 AAC 56.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 57.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 58.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 59.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 60.XXX. New Section; 5 AAC 61.XXX. New Section; and 5 AAC 62.XXX. New Section.</b> Limit amount of sport-caught fish that may be exported to 100 pounds of fillets. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	0-6 Opposed What if you are a family of seven. This is too limiting.
71	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area and 5 AAC 58.060. Lower Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan.</b> Decrease the Lower Cook Inlet winter saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one fish, and establish an annual limit of two king salmon.	This makes no sense.
75	<b>5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.</b> Change the lingcod sport fishing season to begin on June 1 instead of July 1.	0-1-5 Oppose Would like the opportunity to fish for lingcod while they are fishing for kings. Is there a biological reason why it is closed till July 1? Thought that was why it was closed through June. Don't support pending halibut harvest bag limit that may be reduced and lingcod will get pounded if that happens.
79	<b>5 AAC 21.350. Closed waters.</b> Close waters to commercial fishing within one statute mile of the terminus of any anadromous fish stream in Cook Inlet as measured from mean lower low tide, not mean high tide. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>	3-0-3 Support During low tide there would only be a couple of water flows sufficient to allow fish, so they could easily be corked.
81	<b>5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations; 5 AAC 21.332. Seine specifications and operations; and 5 AAC 27.410. Fishing seasons for Cook Inlet Area.</b> Establish various management measures to address decline in returning king salmon to Cook Inlet, including requiring net gear be certified as avoiding king salmon interception and closing commercial herring fisheries. <i>(The finfish aspects of this proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet meetings. The king and Tanner crab aspects of this proposal will be considered during the Statewide king and Tanner Crab meeting.)</i>	This is complicated. There are some really good ideas and generally there is a concern of the king salmon stocks.



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84	<b>5 AAC 21.373. Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery Management Plan.</b> Create a management plan for Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA); describe the location of the Bear Lake, China Poot and Hazel Lake, Tutka Bay Lagoon, and Kirchner Lake SHAs; and define fishing seasons within the SHAs.	This would allow a procedure for cost recovery. The committee would prefer to see some actual language of a plan so they would know what they are voting on. It would make sense to have a plan.
85	<b>5 AAC 21.376. Resurrection Bay Salmon Management Plan and 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.</b> Prohibit sport fishing in Resurrection River until the Bear Lake sockeye salmon broodstock goal is met.	This should be shared among all user groups, not just sport fish groups and prohibit until the broodstock goal is met, but perhaps when it is projected to be met.

Next meeting the committee will review Upper Cook Inlet BOF proposals for comments will be prepared at a meeting December 14, December 28<sup>th</sup> or January 4<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.



Submitted By Darius Kasprzak  
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Address 807 Jackson Lane  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615



PC 33  
1 of 1

Alaska Board of Fish members,

The Alaska Jig Association (AJA) supports the BOF advisory committee's recommendations and amendment to Proposal 44. This amendment requests the BOF to remove the Maximum Retainable Allowance (MRA) walleye pollock restraints from the State Pacific cod jig fishery, and thus establish a management plan for a State jig directed pollock fishery.

The jig fisheries provide entry level opportunity into Gulf of Alaska (GOA) fisheries, which is an integral component of maintaining working waterfronts. Jig fisheries sustain a dedicated jig gear only vessel contingent, and in addition contribute to a diversified fishing portfolio for other combination gear fishing vessels ported throughout coastal Alaskan communities. Increased jig participation is most likely to benefit coastal Alaskan residents and the local economies they rely upon. Increased jig deliveries promote local hire, encourage niche processing activity and foster onshore fleet services that are found throughout coastal communities.

Currently our Kodiak jig fleet has extremely minimal opportunities to harvest pollock. The brief Federal pollock openers that occur in waters relatively close to processing infrastructure, are essentially high volume and trawl gear dominated derbys, that leave no time for the far more selective and slower paced jig vessels to prosecute a viable fishery.

Currently, the only remaining recourse to jig harvest pollock is by attaining a MRA in other targeted jig fisheries such as cod. In 2013 the jig fleet has had great difficulty harvesting the State jig cod guideline harvest level (GHL) due to a lack of cod available inshore. Most of the jig harvest occurs after all other sectors have prosecuted the Federal A cod season, and in times of low cod abundance inshore the fleet has reduced opportunity.

Vessels have been encountering increased catches of pollock and have had to move away from pollock (as well as the cod associated with, and often mixed with schooling pollock biomass) as they are not able to retain more than 20% under a MRA. Without the cod to provide the allowance for the pollock, there is a loss of opportunity.

The GOA jig fleet has been recognized by Federal and State management authorities, and provided for in the context of directed harvest allocations and set asides for both cod and rockfish. Yet, abundant pollock remains among the last jig gear accessible species to be denied in practical terms to our sector as a target fishery.

#### Considerations:

- 1) The beleaguered Kodiak jig fleet is reeling from a double whammy of abnormally low inshore cod biomasses, coinciding with abnormally low ex-vessel cod prices. Meanwhile, inshore pollock biomasses and ex-vessel prices are up. Establishing a State jig pollock fishery could provide a substantial measure of emergency relief to the Kodiak jig fleet. Hopefully, such a measure could be accomplished in 2014, allowing the jig fleet to harvest pollock as soon as possible.
- 2) Value of Alaskan waters pollock harvest would most likely increase by allowing jig sector participation. Jig gear of the type normally used for cod typically harvests a large, superior grade of pollock. The hand tended fishing technique allows the potential for individual bleeding of fish, as well as gutting/gilling onboard and careful hand icing and layering. These quality improvements may encourage niche processing and artisan marketing. The debut of exceptionally high quality jig harvested Alaskan walleye pollock on the market may increase awareness and appreciation of this product, leading to improved overall market conditions for all pollock harvesting sectors.
- 3) Jig fishers need a structure to provide maximum flexibility to the jig fleet under the current overall MRA allowance. We are not asking for more of an initial allocation than is already set aside and accounted for under the current overall MRA allowance.
- 4) Consider a portion of the overall MRA to be available as a directed pollock GHL jig fishery, and a portion to remain as an MRA for the directed cod and rockfish jig fisheries.
- 5) Consider a stairstep increase to a following year's jig pollock GHL available, if harvested to within 90% on a given year. Likewise, GHL could stairstep back down if not harvested within 90% in two consecutive years. GHL would not stairstep down below parameters of initial allocation.
- 6) Considering mirroring legal gear requirements of the current GOA jig fisheries- specifically, a maximum of 5 jig machines limited to a maximum of 30 hooks each.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to meeting with you during Jan.7-10 in Kodiak.

Sincerely,

Darius Kasprzak  
President, Alaska Jig Association

## NMFS Alaska Region discussion of fishery impacts from

### 2013 BOF proposals

**Proposal 43: All groundfish GHL set at 25% of Central GOA ABC for non-pelagic trawl vessels ≤ 58 ft combined for areas: Prince William Sound outside, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Chignik. The proposal includes 100% observer coverage.**

The proposal would allocate 25% of the CGOA ABC for all groundfish species. It is not clear what impact this proposal would have on species that are allocated on a GOA-wide basis without a specific allocation in the Central GOA. These include Atka mackerel, octopuses, sculpins, sharks, other skates, and squids. We assume that these species would not be allocated.

The proposal refers to closing these trawl fisheries on a bycatch limit, but there is no bycatch limit specified in the proposal.


1. Proposal 43 would require decreases in the TACs since the Council and NMFS set TACs less than the ABCs to account for GHLs. NMFS would need to monitor the GHL catch to monitor the annual catch limits for federal ABCs and overfishing levels. This proposal for non-pelagic trawl gear would decrease TACs for species harvested by vessels using hook-and-line gear including IFQ sablefish and incidental catch of species in the IFQ sablefish targets. Some groundfish species are not open for directed fishing because the ABCs/TACs are not large enough for the potential effort and may only support incidental catch amounts in other fisheries. Reducing the TACs by 25% may result in TACs being exceeded earlier in the year which may result in NMFS prohibiting retention of these species with low ABCs/TACs.
  1. In 2013, these species were set equal to the ABC in the Western and Central GOA: pollock, sablefish, deep-water flatfish, rex sole, Pacific ocean perch, northern rockfish, shortraker rockfish, rougheye rockfish, dusky rockfish, thornyhead rockfish, other rockfish, big skate, longnose skate.
  2. In 2013, these species were set equal to ABC Gulf-wide: other skates, sharks, squids, octopus.
2. Reduces allocations for the Central Rockfish and IFQ sablefish catch share programs..
3. Reduces sideboard limits for AFA catcher vessels, Crab sideboarded vessels, and Amendment 80 and Central GOA catcher/processors.
4. It may require re-consultation on Steller sea lion (SSL) protection measures to assess the impact of any increase in harvest in SSL areas closed by Federal regulation that would be allowed under this proposal. The Federal Steller sea lion measures close directed fishing for pollock and Pacific cod trawl fisheries on November 1. This proposal closes the fisheries on December 31 unless the TAC or bycatch limit is reached prior to December 31.
5. From 2003 through 2013 the main targeted trawl groundfish fisheries in state waters are for pollock and Pacific cod. There is some catch in shallow-water flatfish and arrowtooth flounder targets in State waters; however, the catch in each of these targets averages less than 150 mt per year from 2003 through 2013. Except for a seasonal opening on the west side of Kodiak and Afognak Islands, all other State waters in these areas currently are closed to non-pelagic trawl gear.

**Proposal 44: Pollock GHL set at 25% of Central GOA ABC for vessels <58 ft using pelagic trawl, non-pelagic trawl, seine, or jig gear, in combined areas of Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik. The proposal includes 100% observer coverage.**

1. Would require a decrease in the TACs and seasonal apportionments. See the Tables 1 and 2 below.
2. It may require re-consultation on Steller sea lion (SSL) protection measures to assess the impact of any increase in harvest in SSL areas closed by Federal regulation that would be allowed under this proposal. Existing SSL protection measures allocate the pollock fishery by four seasons to distribute the directed fishery over time. Another SSL protection measure closes pollock directed fishing on November 1. It appears that this proposal would not establish seasonal allocations and would close the fishery on December 31 unless the GHL has been reached.
3. Chinook salmon bycatch (PSC) limits apply in the Western and Central GOA pollock fisheries. The federal limits would not apply to the state GHL fisheries for pollock, and the proposal does not address whether Chinook salmon PSC limits would be part of the new GHL fisheries. Chinook salmon PSC may increase unless the state establishes Chinook salmon PSC limits.
4. Halibut bycatch (PSC) limits also apply to all trawl fisheries (including pollock). These federal limits would not apply to the state GHL fishery for pollock, and the proposal does not address whether halibut PSC limits would be part of the new GHL fisheries. Halibut PSC may increase unless the State establishes halibut PSC limits.
5. Reduces pollock sideboard limits for AFA catcher vessels.

### Tables for Proposal 44 - Pollock GHLs set at 25% of Central GOA ABC

Table 1 - 2013 Status Quo Pollock OFLs, ABCs, and TACs					GHL = 25% of ABC	
Species	Area/District1	OFL	ABC	TAC	GHL	TAC minus GHL

						 PC 43 2 of 2
	Shumagin (610)	n/a	28,072	28,072	N/A	
	Chirikof (620)	n/a	51,443	51,443	12,861	38,582
Pollock2	Kodiak (630)	n/a	27,372	27,372	6,843	20,529
	WYK (640)	n/a	3,385	3,385	846	2,539
Subtotal	W/C/WYK	150,817	110,272	110,272	27,568	89,722
	SEO (650)	14,366	10,774	10,774	N/A	10,774
Total		165,183	121,046	121,046	27,568	100,496

WYK – West Yakutat District, W/C/WYK – Western, Central, and West Yakutat District


Blue highlighted cells are the revised TACs and GHs under proposal 44.

**Proposal 45: Require 100% observer coverage in all trawl groundfish fisheries inside state waters in the Central GOA. The primary trawl fisheries in state waters are the parallel fisheries for pollock and Pacific cod.**

1. Trawl catcher/processors are required to have 100% observer coverage, so this proposal does not apply to trawl catcher/processors.
2. The federal observer program applies to federally-permitted vessels in the federal or parallel fisheries. The current deployment of observers does not differ whether a vessel is fishing in federal or state waters in that fishery. Under the current deployment, if the State requires 100% observer coverage in state waters then a vessel could only fish in state waters if they were selected for observer coverage.
3. If 100% observer coverage was required in state waters then either this coverage would need to be incorporated into the current federal observer program or the State would need to establish its own program to provide observer for non-federally permitted vessels and for federally-permitted vessels not selected for observer coverage that fish in state waters. Each option has benefits and concerns related to many aspects including enforceability, funding, deployment, and data management. A combined state and federal observer program makes sense when reviewing the benefits of a collaborative state, federal, and IPHC electronic fish ticket program: improved data quality, more timely data for managers, and reduction of duplicative reporting of similar information to multiple agencies. Separate state and federal observer programs would need to be carefully developed to prevent one program from negatively influencing the other program.
4. Because NMFS provides stock assessment for most groundfish, any new state waters observer program would need to collect data compatible with data collected by the federal program to be used for both catch accounting and stock assessment.



## Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association

RC  PC 62  
1 of 2  
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Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Chignik Finfish meeting  
December 5-6

### Proposal 44 - Oppose

The Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association (AWTA) is located in Kodiak and represents the majority of independently owned trawl vessels that harvest groundfish in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA). Our vessels also harvest groundfish in the Western Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea.

AWTA opposes proposal 44 which seeks to establish a new Central Gulf of Alaska state-waters trawl fishery for twenty-five percent (25%) of all Pollock from areas 62, 630, and 640. It would also establish a new Western Gulf of Alaska state-waters trawl fishery for twenty-five percent (25%) of all Pollock from area 610.

This proposal is very poorly thought out with no consideration of the impacts on critical habitat and the implications regarding the measures that have been taken to protect Stellar Sea Lions. The federal Pollock fisheries were a central part of the dialogue regarding the protection of Stellar Sea Lions. There was concern that the removal of Pollock as a food source may cause nutritional stress on the sea lion population. To minimize the potential for negative impacts, the federal Pollock fishery is divided into multiple seasons (A, B, C, and D) in multiple areas (610, 620, 630, and 640) with only a portion of the available TAC made available to each season and area. Areas adjacent to rookeries and haul-outs were closed. **The creation of a state-waters Pollock fishery designed to permit the harvest of over 43,438,887 pounds of Pollock (based on 2013 TAC) in these sensitive near-shore areas is a very bad idea.** It will trigger a full Section 7 consultation of the Stellar Sea lion regulations and additional closures will likely be mandated.

The management of Pollock in the Gulf of Alaska is a complex task and the idea that you can take a significant portion of the Pollock resource and just move it into the hands of state managers without the appropriate amount of time it will take to design and implement a management structure for this new fishery is very short sighted. The Pollock resource is a large and important part of the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries. **It must be managed carefully and not at the whim of some individual making this proposal.**

The historic pollock harvesters have developed long-term business and harvesting plans in conjunction with processors, their workers and the vendors and service industries that support the Pollock fishery. Removing access of 25% of the Pollock resource from these historic harvesters will have a significant economic ripple effect on all those who depend on this fishery.



AK BOF  
Chignik Finfish meeting  
Proposal 44  
AWTA Comments  
Page #2

This proposal calls for the use of non-pelagic (bottom) trawl gear as well as pelagic trawl, seine and jig gear. State waters are currently closed to bottom trawling.

This proposal is couched as providing opportunities for little guys but Pollock fishing is a high overhead, very narrow margin fishery. It costs several million dollars to procure the necessary permits and build a vessel capable of participating in this fishery. The new Super 58' vessels being built are far from being little boats with 800-1000 horsepower, the ability to pack up to 250,000 pounds of Pollock and costing \$2.5 - \$3 Million Dollars.

This proposal calls for 100% observer coverage in all of these new fisheries inside of state waters. This would require the state to duplicate the federal observer program and somehow interface it with that program. The process of designing, developing the regulatory structure, implementing and managing this new observer requirement would be incredibly complex, expensive and impossible to do in any reasonable time frame. While you could expect the vessels to pay for on-going observer coverage, the state would have to pay for all of the costs necessary to develop, implement and manage this program.

This proposal would not move 25% of the federal Pollock TAC inside of 3 miles because fish have tails and go where they want. This proposal would grant, to a limited number of less than 58' vessels, access to those fish that might be available inside 3 miles but it would remove access to the 35+ vessels that have historically prosecuted the Pollock fisheries. This is a direct reallocation of a fully subscribed Pollock fishery.

This proposal was submitted by an under 58' vessel with minimal history in the Gulf of Alaska and it is aimed at taking away fishing opportunities of historic participants for their own advantage.

This proposal should be eliminated!

Sincerely,

Robert L. Krueger, President  
Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association  
[Robert.Krueger@alaskawhitefishtrawlers.org](mailto:Robert.Krueger@alaskawhitefishtrawlers.org)

**Cook Inlet Sport Fishing and Personal Use Salmon***Sport Fishing and Personal Use*

Proposal	KRSA Position	Comment(s)
46	Oppose	Sport bag limits should apply to individuals
47	Oppose**	
48	Oppose**	
49	Oppose**	
50	Oppose**	
51	Oppose**	
52	Oppose**	
53	Oppose**	
54	Oppose**	
55	Oppose**	
56	Oppose**	
57	Oppose**	

Those proposals marked \*\* which appear in both the Lower Cook Inlet and the Upper Cook Inlet proposal booklets fall into a category of proposals that KRSA contends has one or more of three very negative attributes. These negative attributes are:

1. Outside the authority of the Alaska Board of Fisheries to address.
2. Not implementable with current technology and/or budget.
3. So sweeping in nature and potentially harmful to sportfishing opportunity and the economic value provided to the state, region, area by participants in the sport fishery and so radically and dangerously divergent from the fishery specific regulatory development that is our custom in Alaska that the proposals should fail unanimously or perish of no action.

*Freshwater - Salmon*

58	Oppose	Support adaptive management, opportunity
59	Support	ADFG proposal
60	Support*	*Support conditioned on ADFG support
61	Support*	*Support conditioned on ADFG support
62	Support	ADFG proposal

*Saltwater - Salmon and Lingcod*

63	Support*	*Support conditioned on ADFG support
64	Support*	*Support conditioned on ADFG support
65	Support*	*Support conditioned on ADFG support
66	Oppose	Snagging and archery side-by-side, NOT pretty
67	Oppose*	*Support #209, #218 in UCI, addresses same





68	Oppose*	*Support #209, #218 in UCI, addresses same
69	Oppose*	*Support #209, #218 in UCI, addresses same
70	Support*	*Support conditioned on ADFG support
71	Oppose	Destroys too much fishing opportunity
72	Support	ADFG proposal
73	Support	ADFG proposal
74	Oppose	Not an ADFG proposal to restrict
75	Oppose	Lingcod conservation balance

#### Cook Inlet Subsistence Fisheries

76	Support	ADFG proposal
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#### Cook Inlet Commercial Fisheries

##### *Salmon Fishing Districts, Subdistricts, and Sections*

77	No Position	
78	Support	ADFG proposal
79	Support	Coho salmon conservation

##### *Salmon Closed Waters*

80	Support	Clarifies closed waters regs
81	Oppose	Too sweeping in nature

##### *Salmon Hatchery Management Plans and Special Harvest Areas*

82	Support	Clarifies fishing strategy
83	Support	Puts in regs what is being done
84	Support	Puts in regs what is being done
85	Oppose	Sport should share in equitably in benefit

##### *Cook Inlet Groundfish Pot Storage and Landing Requirements*

86	Support	ADFG proposal
87	Support	ADFG proposal

##### *Groundfish Trawl and Pollock Management Plans and Observer Coverage*

43	Support*	*KRSA support for these three proposals is
44	Support*	conditioned upon support from the ADFG on
45	Support*	these proposals as written. ADFG comments are
		not available at the time of this writing.

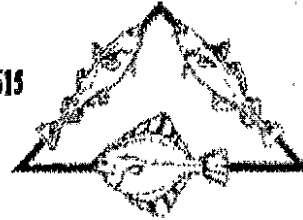


# Groundfish Data Bank

**Alaska**

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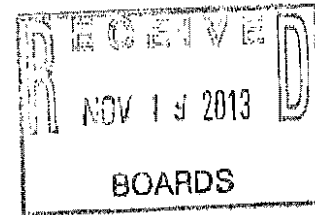
Julie Bonney, Executive Director jbonney@gei.net  
Katy McCauley, Fisheries Biologist agdb@gei.net



Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: Proposals 43-44-45

November 19, 2013



Dear Chairman Johnstone and Board Members,

Alaska Groundfish Data Bank (AGDB) is a member organization that includes the majority of both the shorebased processors located in Kodiak and catcher vessels home ported in Kodiak that participate in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) groundfish trawl fisheries.

This letter expresses our opposition to proposals 43 -45. We ask that the Alaska Board of Fish (BOF) reject these proposals and instead work with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and the GOA trawl industry stakeholders to develop a Gulf of Alaska trawl bycatch management program. Any program developed within the Council process will require input from and coordination with the BOF to address the interrelationships between state-waters, parallel and federal fishery zones. We are asking that you join us in developing a vision for a new fishery management structure that will allow our industry to effectively manage and reduce bycatch while meeting optimum yield for groundfish harvests - a management plan that holds each individual vessel accountable for their fishing behavior. We are asking that you allow this process to play out and not disrupt our industry in the short term by adopting any of these proposals.

Attached for your information is the Council purpose and need statement/Goals and Objectives (appendix A) for the new program and the Council initial program design motion (appendix B) which will be used to focus public input for development of program alternatives and options. Both these documents demonstrate the vision under construction for our industry. Also attached for your information is the Council's Bycatch Reduction Flyer underscoring the industry's need for additional tools.

**Specific comments for each proposal:**

*Proposal 43 - this proposal would create state-water management plans for all groundfish species in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Chignik management areas for non-pelagic trawl vessels 58 foot and less.*



- The Pacific cod resource, both federal and state, are fully allocated and subscribed. A separate state-water Pacific cod non-pelagic trawl fishery would increase the total amount of Pacific cod ABC allocated to state-water fisheries. The BOF at their recent Oct 18 – 22 meeting addressed the allocations for state cod fisheries. Revisiting the cod allocations between state and federal fisheries now is completely out of cycle with the prior decision making process and should be rejected.
- It is impossible to harvest 25% of all groundfish ABC's within three miles. Based on table 43-1 (staff comments) harvest in the CGOA for groundfish taken with non-pelagic gear inside three miles is less than 8 million pounds over the time period 2000-2012 (averaging about 615,000 lbs per year). This compares to a potential annual State waters allocation of 133 million pounds based on 25% of the current, respective groundfish ABCs.
- It is unclear whether the proposal would open additional areas inside three miles to allow for additional harvesting opportunities for groundfish with non-pelagic trawl gear. While the trawl industry in general is supportive of additional access to these fishing grounds, a thoughtful, research driven approach via a commissioner's permit is the appropriate vehicle - not this proposal.
- The Department of Fish and Game is opposed to this proposal.

*Proposal 44 – this proposal would create state-waters management plans for Pollock in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas for vessels 58 feet or less.*

- Increasing Pollock catch within Stellar Sea Lion critical habitat (zero to three miles) will most likely require a reconsultation under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). If a jeopardy determination is found, additional restrictions for federal fishing activity may result. During the 2010 reconsultation, the CGOA regulatory area barely escaped increased fishing restrictions similar to what occurred in the Aleutian Islands.
- This proposal redistributes access to the Pollock resource across users. The CGOA Pollock fleet consists of approximately 40 vessels, typically 4 of which are <58 feet in length. Note that these four <58' vessels all currently participate fully in the Federal GOA pollock fisheries. Allocating pollock between federal and state participants, large and small vessels, will not only impact individual harvesting vessel businesses but also their business partners -- processing companies, secondary fishery businesses and coastal communities. Reallocations of this type (potentially every 3 years at the BOF finfish meeting) would breed instability and uncertainty in GOA trawl fisheries, reducing investment for efficiency improvements and gear modifications. .
- It is difficult to understand how state quotas would be created. The proposal suggests 25% of the CGOA quota would be set aside for a new state Pollock fishery. Would there be some portion set aside for Cook Inlet, Chignik and Kodiak management areas? If so how would the Board decide? In the federal fishery, pollock is allocated seasonally across four quarters to mitigate impacts to Stellar Sea Lions. Would some type of seasonal structure be needed for the state fishery? Dividing the pollock quota between federal and state fisheries, then again by federal management areas and state management areas and finally into seasonal allocations for both jurisdictional fisheries could result in both federal and state fishery allocations too small to



manage. The potential is to go from the present eight allocation boxes in the CGOA federal fishery system to a possible 20 allocation boxes in a combined CGOA federal and state system.

- If the BOF develops new state water pollock fisheries it will fragment the pollock industry and frustrate our ability to meet bycatch management objectives. Some examples of the challenges include:
  - a. Fish do not understand the 3 mile line. This is exhibited in the tables in the staff document where inside and outside Pollock catch has ranged from a low of 5% to a high of 49% annually. When pollock catch per unit effort (CPUE) is high, bycatch is typically low. The fleet needs the ability to target areas of high pollock abundance with the associated low Chinook salmon bycatch to control and reduce bycatch.
  - b. The Bering Sea Pollock industry uses rolling seasonal hotspot closures to reduce salmon bycatch. The GOA industry hopes to develop a similar plan once a new cooperative fishery management structure is in place as in the Bering Sea fishery. The key for a rolling hotspot program is removing the race for both target and bycatch allocations along with the ability to move the fleet fluidly across the fishing grounds, 0 to 200 miles.
  - c. Cooperative management programs allow industry to develop contractual mechanisms to police the individual cooperative members. These co-op contracts are structured to benefit the entire group of co-op members as a whole versus individual members. State fisheries participants would be outside this self-policing mechanism.
  - d. Co-op contracts could address gear development and excluder use, fleet bycatch performance standards, incentives / penalties that address individual vessel fishing behaviors, and strategic fishing strategies.
- There would be significant costs incurred to the state of Alaska if this proposal is approved. The 100% observer coverage requirement would require the establishment of a state groundfish observer program. This would be duplicative to the federal groundfish observer program for the trans-boundary pollock stock. As the staff comments notes, this would require a substantial investment in time and resources for the state of Alaska. Maintaining a compatible state-water observer program would be necessary to provide the essential information needed for both catch accounting and stock assessments. Additionally, the federal program collects genetic tissue samples from Chinook salmon bycatch taken within the federal trawl Pollock fisheries. A companion genetic collection program would be necessary to understand stock of origin for bycaught Chinook if state pollock fisheries are created. Presently, the NMFS observer program is collecting all samples within the federal Pollock fisheries and NMFS Auke Bay laboratory is doing the genetic workup of these samples. The final cost element is the necessary personnel to manage these new state Pollock fisheries.

*Proposal 45—this proposal would require 100% observer coverage for trawl vessels targeting groundfish inside state waters of the Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Chignik management areas.*

The partial coverage portion of the newly restructured North Pacific Groundfish and Halibut observer program estimates total removals for the commercial fishing industry where the observed vessel data is extrapolated to the unobserved portion of the fleets. Estimates are stratified by target fishery, gear type and federal regulatory area. This new restructured program replaced the old Observer Program in 2012, improving the catch estimates and reducing the bias by requiring random trip or vessel selection.



Previously, for the partial observed vessels (the majority of the Kodiak trawl fleet), the operator chose when to take an observer on a trip.

It is unclear whether the proposal would create a state water observer program or whether the BOF would require federal observers to be on board vessel while fishing inside three miles. If a state system is created it would be a substantial financial investment by the State. It is unclear whether the State data would be incorporated within federal catch accounting system for bycatch and catch estimation processes or whether a separate state system would be necessary. This new data would over sample catch within three miles affecting the random data collection processes that are in place within the new federal program designed to estimate catch and bycatch for trawl fisheries in general. If the BOF requires vessels to carry federal observers within three miles then additional costs will be incurred not only by those vessels fishing inside three miles but also by NMFS. Cost estimates per fishing day for the vessels are underestimated in the staff analysis. Typical costs are \$500 to \$600 per fishing day and can be as high as \$1,000 per fishing day. Observer daily costs can also include travel costs, excessive baggage costs and cost for observer stand-down days due to weather, price negotiations, etc. The agency incurs costs due to observer training, briefing and debriefing, management of observer data and staff in general to support the overall observer program.

Additional observer coverage inside state waters will only affect the Chinook salmon bycatch data within the federal program since the vast majority of non-pelagic trawl harvests occurs outside three miles. Mid-water pelagic gear catches de minimis amounts of both crab and halibut so requiring 100% observer coverage will not affect the estimates for these PSC species in the overall federal catch accounting system. The vast majority of trawl harvests inside three miles consist of pollock taken with pelagic trawl gear. Thus additional coverage would only affect Chinook salmon PSC estimates. 100% coverage within 3 miles in the pollock target would remove the random nature of the present system, introducing a large bias into the estimates. Also, with the current race structure of the Federal pollock fisheries in the CGOA and large number of participants, the fisheries typically last only 3-10 days per season – with the operators racing for catch before the fishery closes, there is no time or incentive to game the observer system so observed trips are representative of actual catches.

The Council vision for a new GOA Trawl Management Program, includes a mandatory 100% federal observer coverage requirement, as it does in all other North Pacific trawl catch share programs. The 100% observer coverage requirement is necessary because each individual vessel will be held accountable for its bycatch performance versus the present system which holds the entire fleet to a fleet wide bycatch limit and where the behavior of one vessel operator can potentially shut down the entire fishery.

The Council has passed a series of actions to reduce bycatch in the GOA trawl fisheries. (See appendix C). Recent actions include a Tanner crab closure area near Marmot Bay, requiring modified sweeps for flatfish harvests, Halibut Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) reductions, and new Chinook salmon PSC caps for both the pollock and non-pollock fisheries. Industry believes that a new fishery management structure that creates additional tools is necessary to successfully address these bycatch reduction actions.

**GOA Trawl Industry is making bycatch improvements:**

The trawl industry continues to be proactive to understand the impact of our bycatch, mitigate the impact of our bycatch and develop tools to reduce bycatch.



The fleet is presently modifying their gear to add elevation devices to their sweeps in anticipation of a new regulation that requires the use of sweep modifications for flatfish harvests. These sweep modifications are intended to reduce gear impacts on bottom habitat and reduce crab bycatch mortalities.

All the Gulf of Alaska trawl groundfish processors and fishing vessels joined the Sea Share program in 2011. This year (2013) Sea Share has donated more than 34,000 pounds of finished product, both halibut and salmon bycatch, to food banks across Alaska from GOA trawl bycatch.

The Council and NMFS are collecting genetic information from the Chinook salmon bycatch in the pollock fishery to understand stock of origin and impacts to Alaska salmon runs. Industry has expanded genetic data collection to the CGOA shoreside catcher vessel rockfish fishery. Sample collections from the Rockfish Program landings include:

1. Tissue samples from all landed Chinook salmon for DNA and stock of origin analysis.
2. Biological data (weight, length, sex) from all landed salmon.
3. Scan all landed Chinook salmon for the presence or absence of adipose fin clips and Coded Wire Tags (CWT). This will allow for an estimation of Chinook bycatch that originate from hatcheries.
4. Collect CWT's (snouts) from all salmon with positive CWT signal.

Cooperative research partners for this initiative include NMFS groundfish observer program, NMFS Auke Bay Genetics laboratory, and the inshore CV rockfish cooperatives, all located in Kodiak.

The North Pacific Fisheries Research Foundation was awarded an Exempted Fisheries Permit to test Chinook salmon excluder devices for mid-water Pollock nets on "typical" Central Gulf of Alaska pollock trawlers. Two trials occurred in 2013 with two additional trials scheduled in 2014.

AGDB members respectfully request that the Board reject proposals 43, 44, and 45 and instead join with the NPFMC and the GOA trawl industry in developing a new vision for a new fishery management structure for our industry. We appreciate the opportunity to comment and look forward to engaging with the Board at the upcoming Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet and Kodiak finfish meetings.

Sincerely,

Julie Bonney  
Executive Director  
Alaska Groundfish Data Bank



## **Appendix A: North Pacific Fishery Management Council purpose and need statement/Goals and Objectives: GOA Trawl Bycatch Management**

### *Purpose and Need Statement:*

Management of Central Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish trawl fisheries has grown increasingly complicated in recent years due to the implementation of measures to protect Steller Sea lions and reduced Pacific halibut and Chinook salmon Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) limits under variable annual total allowable catch (TAC's) limits for target groundfish species. These changes complicate effective management of target and non-target resources, and can have significant adverse social and economic impacts on harvesters, processors, and fishery-dependent GOA coastal communities.

The current management tools in the GOA Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) do not provide the Central GOA trawl fleet with the ability to effectively address these challenges, especially with regard to the fleet's ability to best reduce and utilize PSC. As such, the Council had determined that consideration of a new management regime for the Central GOA trawl fisheries is warranted.

The purpose of the proposed action is to create a new management structure which allocates allowable harvest to individuals, cooperatives, or other entities, which will eliminate the derby-style race for fish. It is expected to improve stock conservation by creating vessel-level and/or cooperative-level incentives to eliminate wasteful fishing practices, provide mechanisms to control and reduce bycatch, and create accountability measures when utilizing PSC, target, and secondary species. It will also have the added benefit of reducing the incentive to fish during unsafe conditions and improving operational efficiencies.

The Council recognizes that Central GOA harvesters, processors, and communities all have a stake in the groundfish trawl fisheries. The new program shall be designed to provide tools for the effective management and reduction of PSC and bycatch, and promote increased utilization of both target and secondary species harvested in the GOA. The program is also expected to increase the flexibility and economic efficiency of the Central GOA groundfish trawl fisheries and support the continued direct and indirect participation of the coastal communities that are dependent upon those fisheries. These management measures shall apply to those species, or groups of species, harvested by trawl gear in the Central GOA, as well as to PSC. This program will not modify the overall management of other sectors in the GOA, or the Central GOA rockfish program, which already operates under a catch share program.

### *Goals and Objectives:*

1. Balance the requirements of the National Standards in the Magnuson Stevens Act
2. Increase the ability of the groundfish trawl sector to avoid PSC species and utilize available amounts of PSC more efficiently by allowing groundfish trawl vessel to fish more slowly, strategically, and cooperatively, both amongst the vessels themselves and with shore-based processors
3. Reduce bycatch and regulatory discards by groundfish trawl vessels
4. Authorize fair and equitable access privileges that take into consideration the value of assets and investments in the fishery and dependency on the fishery for harvesters, processors, and communities
5. Balance interests of all sectors and provide equitable distributions of benefits and similar opportunities for increased value
6. Promote community stability and minimize adverse economic impacts by limiting consolidation, providing employment and entry opportunities, and increasing the economic viability of the groundfish harvesters, processors, and support industries



7. Improve the ability of the groundfish trawl sector to achieve Optimum Yield, including increased product retention, utilization, landings, and value by allowing vessels to choose the time and location of fishing to optimize returns and generate higher yields
8. Increase stability relative to the volume and timing of groundfish trawl landings, allowing processors to better plan operational needs as well as identify and exploit new projects and markets
9. Increase safety by allowing trawl vessels to prosecute groundfish fisheries at slower speeds and in better conditions
10. Include measures for improved monitoring and reporting
11. Include the trawl sector's ability to adapt to applicable Federal law (i.e., Endangered Species Act)
12. Include methods to measure the success and impacts of all program elements
13. Minimize adverse impacts on sectors and areas not included in the program.
14. Promote active participation by owners of harvest vessels and fishing privileges





## **Appendix B: North Pacific Fishery Management Council GOA Trawl Bycatch Management Program**

### **C-5(a) GOA Trawl Bycatch Management Council Motion 10/5/13**

The Council requests that the staff provide a discussion paper reviewing the program structure described below using the decision framework provided in the June 2013 'roadmap' document and the Council's purpose and need statement. The paper should evaluate whether and how the elements of this design address the objectives in the Council's purpose and need statement. The intent is to receive feedback characterizing: 1) how the fishery would operate under the new design; 2) how well it may meet the Council's stated objectives; and 3) which second-tier decisions are necessary to transform the program structure into alternative(s) for analysis. The paper should also include information on bycatch reduction results from other trawl catch share programs in the North Pacific and other regions.

### **GOA Trawl Bycatch Management Program**

#### **1. Bycatch Management**

The primary objective of this action is to improve incentives for PSC reduction and PSC management, achieved in several ways through this program design.

- a. **Reduced PSC:** The Council intends to adopt a program to: (1) minimize Chinook salmon bycatch, and (2) achieve more efficient use of halibut PSC, allowing some efficiency gains to provide additional target fishery opportunity while leaving some halibut PSC savings in the water for conservation and contribution to exploitable biomass.
- b. **Duration of shares:** A portion of target species share allocations (maximum 25%) will be evaluated for retention based on achievement of performance targets relative to bycatch and other Council objectives after a set period of time (3-10 years). The time period and the criteria used to evaluate performance will be established in regulation.
- c. **Cooperative management:** A system of cooperative management is best suited to managing and reducing bycatch (such as, hotspot program, gear modifications, excluder use, incentive plan agreements) while maximizing the value of available target species. Cooperatives are intended to facilitate a flexible, responsive, and coordinated effort among vessels and processors to avoid bycatch through information sharing and formal participation in a bycatch avoidance program.
- d. **Gear modification. Option:** gear modifications for crab protection.

#### **2. Observer Coverage**

All trawl catcher vessels in the GOA will be in the 100% observer coverage category.

#### **3. Areas**

Western Gulf, Central Gulf, West Yakutat

#### **4. Sector allocation of target species and PSC**



Allocations for the trawl CP and CV sectors for WG and CG Pacific cod (Am 83), CGOA rockfish program (Am 88), and GOA pollock (Am 23) are maintained. Am 80 target sideboards and GOA flatfish eligibility are maintained. Allocate halibut and Chinook salmon PSC caps between CP and CV sectors.

#### 5. Allocated species.

Target species are pollock and Pacific cod. PSC species include halibut and Chinook salmon.

### 6. Program structure for trawl catcher vessel fishery

#### Voluntary cooperative structure

- a. Allocate target species (pollock, Pacific cod) at the cooperative level, based on aggregate catch histories associated with member vessels' LLPs.
- b. Apportion halibut PSC and Chinook salmon PSC limits to each cooperative on a pro rata basis relative to target fisheries of GOA trawl vessels in the cooperative [such as, pollock Chinook salmon PSC cap divided based on pollock landings; non-pollock Chinook salmon cap divided based on non-pollock landings (excluding rockfish); halibut PSC apportioned in proportion to the cooperative's allocation of target species.]
- c. Participants can choose to either join a cooperative or operate in a limited access pool [sector-level, non-transferable target allocations and PSC]. Harvesters would need to be in a cooperative with a processor by a specified date prior to the season to access a transferable allocation of target species and PSC.
- d. Initial (2 years) cooperative formation would be based on the majority of a license holders' historical landings (aggregate trawl groundfish deliveries, excluding Central GOA rockfish harvested under a rockfish cooperative quota allocation) to a processor.
- e. Each cooperative would be required to have a private cooperative contract. The contract would require signatures of all harvesters in the cooperative and the processor (option: and community in which the processor is located). The contract would include clear provisions for how the parties may dissolve their contract after the first two years. If a harvester wants to leave that cooperative and join another cooperative, they could do so if they meet the requirements of the contract.
- f. Additional contract elements (such as bycatch management, active participation, mechanisms to facilitate entry, community provisions) may be required to ensure the program is consistent with Council objectives.

Option: Each processor controls a portion of PSC within the cooperative and negotiates terms of access through private agreement. The processor would activate the incremental PSC through NMFS, making it accessible to the cooperative. PSC made available by these agreements cannot be used by processor-owned vessels.

### 7. Fishery dependent community stability

- a. Consolidation limits
  - Vessel caps and limits on the percentage of the total allocation that a person can hold (accessible only through a cooperative).
  - Processor caps in each area (WG and CG).



- b. Target species quota would be regionalized (WG or WY/CG designation) based on historical delivery patterns.

Option: Target species CG quota that has historically been landed in Kodiak would have a port of landing requirement to be delivered to Kodiak; CG quota not historically landed in Kodiak would be regionalized (WG or WY/CG).

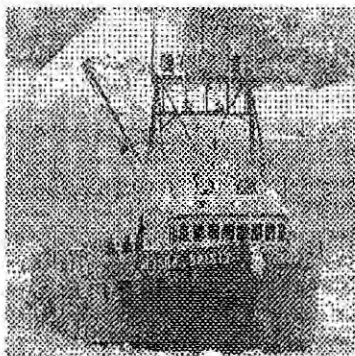
- c. Require individuals or entities to meet fishery participation criteria in order to be eligible to purchase an eligible license with associated history.

#### 8. Transferability

- a. (Annually) Full transferability for annual use within the cooperative. Cooperatives can engage in inter-cooperative agreements on an annual basis.
- b. (Long-term) The LLP is transferable, with the associated history of the target species (which, when entered into a cooperative, brings with it a pro rata share of PSC). Target species history is severable and transferable to another eligible license.

#### 9. Gear conversions

Upon further development, the Council could include gear conversion provisions that allow Pacific cod trawl allocations to be fished with fixed gear, although any harvest would continue to be deducted from the vessels' annual trawl quota account and would not affect the fixed gear Pacific cod sector allocations.



## Reducing Bycatch in Alaska

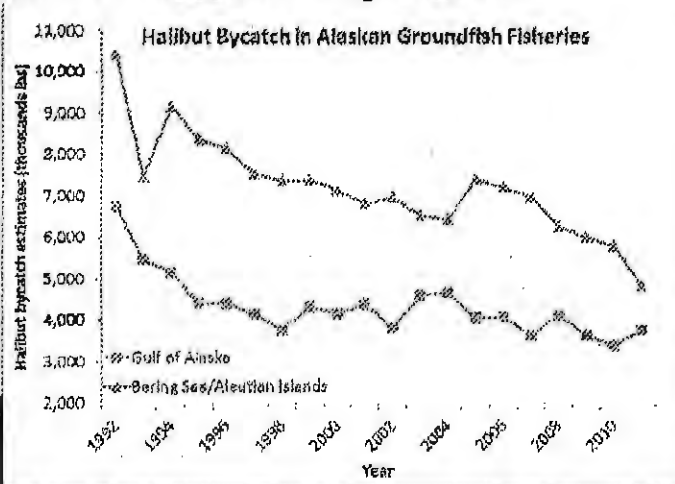
The Magnuson-Stevens Act requires the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to minimize bycatch while also allowing for optimum yield in the fisheries. The Council has implemented new measures or refined existing measures to reduce bycatch of prohibited species, such as Chinook and chum salmon, Pacific halibut, and crab in the Federal fisheries. These species are integral to the health of Alaskan marine ecosystems and to State and Federal economies. This paper shares highlights of recently implemented restrictions.

### *Pacific halibut bycatch reduction*

Numerous subsistence users, charter vessels and commercial halibut fishermen rely on Pacific halibut. Halibut bycatch reduction is a priority for the Council and State of Alaska. Halibut size at age has decreased over the last decade and the entire Pacific halibut biomass is in decline along the Pacific coastal corridor.

#### **Bycatch limits**

- In June 2012, the Council took action to reduce halibut bycatch limits by 15% in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) trawl fisheries and longline catcher vessel fisheries and 7% in the GOA freezer longline fisheries.
- In 2012, the Council established a halibut bycatch limit in the central GOA Rockfish Program that is 12.5% less than the historical average, and required that 45% of any unused bycatch must be left in the water and not used in other trawl fisheries that year.
- In 2008, the Council established cooperative management in the BSAI non-pollock trawl catcher processor sector and reduced halibut bycatch by about 8% over four years.



Source: IPHC 2011 (net weight).

### *King, tanner and snow crab bycatch reduction*

#### **Gear modifications**

- In 2011, new regulations required all BS flatfish fisheries to elevate their trawl sweeps off the seafloor to reduce habitat damage and crab mortality. In 2013, this requirement was extended to all central GOA flatfish fisheries.
- Pot fishing gear is required to have biodegradable panels to prevent lost pots from 'ghost fishing' and tunnel openings or escape panels to reduce crab bycatch.

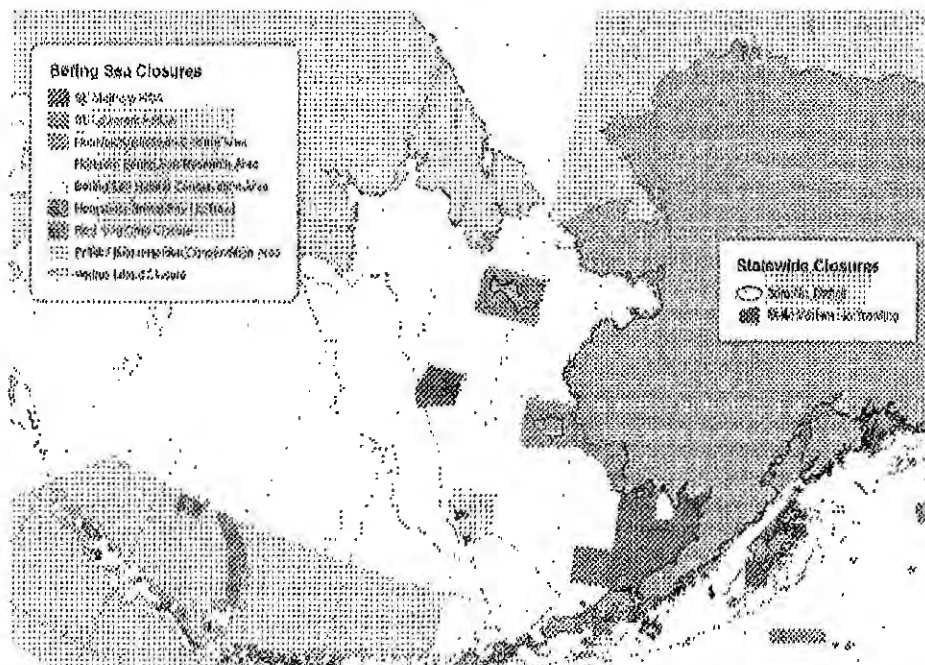


#### **Bycatch limits**

Bycatch limits are established for some red king, Tanner, and snow crab stocks by the Council in the BS groundfish fisheries and by the State in the statewide scallop fisheries. Bycatch limits are area specific to reduce impacts on local populations and fluctuate based on annual estimates of crab abundance.

### Area closures

Several closures were applied in the Bering Sea in the mid-1990s to conserve red and blue king crab stocks, such as the Red King Crab Savings Area, the Nearshore Bristol Bay Closure, and the Pribilof Islands Habitat Conservation Area. In 2010, the Council adopted a bottom trawl closure in Marmot Bay to reduce bycatch of Tanner crabs, enhancing existing trawl closure areas designed to protect red king crabs.



## Chinook salmon bycatch reduction

Chinook salmon are an integral part of subsistence, sport, and commercial harvests in Alaska. The Council has implemented numerous management measures to reduce Chinook salmon bycatch over the years.

### Bering Sea

In 2011, the Council implemented a new Chinook salmon bycatch avoidance program for the Bering Sea pollock fishery, which includes:

- A hard cap on the number of Chinook salmon that can be taken in the Bering Sea pollock fishery. This maximum limit requires immediate closure to all further pollock fishing for the remaining season.
- Incentive plan agreements to keep bycatch lower than the cap level. These agreements include explicit incentives and penalties for the pollock fleet to avoid Chinook salmon in all conditions.
- An industry program to close areas of the pollock fishing grounds when Chinook salmon bycatch rates are high in those areas.
- Requirements for every pollock vessel to have at least one observer onboard at all times. It requires a full count of all salmon caught, with genetic sampling to determine stock of origin.

### Gulf of Alaska

- In 2012, a bycatch cap of 25,000 Chinook salmon was established for the western and central GOA pollock trawl fisheries.
- In 2013, the Council approved a hard cap (7,500 salmon) on Chinook bycatch in all remaining GOA trawl fisheries.
- Full retention of Chinook salmon is also required in all trawl fisheries. Retention of salmon supports research to identify the stock of origin of Chinook salmon bycatch in the GOA.

For more information: (907)271-2809 or [www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc](http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc)



PC 66  
1 of 1

Boards Support Section  
P.O. Box 11526  
Juneau, Ak. 99811-5526

RC 034

From: Mike Shupe  
1035 W. Northern Lights Blvd.  
Anchorage, Ak. 99503

RE: Proposals 43 and 44

As a single-plant processor of ground fish and salmon in Seward, Polar Seafoods has developed a niche business over several years. In recent years the groundfish fishery has been especially difficult to pursue due the harvest of Pollock under a derby style fishery spreading from Prince William Sound to Chignik. Boats targeting Pollock will frequently come to Prince William Sound and harvest the entire quota of Pollock with a single trip that goes to Kodiak and contributes nothing or, little, to the economy of Seward. By comparison, in 1997-1999, Polar Seafoods in Seward processed 10-12 million pounds of Pollock per year, when the nearby waters were open to fishing and the season lasted until March or April. Clearly, state waters fisheries are necessary for local economies to benefit from the harvest of the resources at their front door.

Comments:

Proposal 43 oppose

I agree that state waters fisheries should be established; however, I also believe that the legalization of trawl gear in state waters fisheries where it is not legal gear, now would be counter productive to efforts to maintain stability in the fishery, improve product quality, and minimize gear conflict.

Proposal 44 support

I support except for the 100% observer requirement. I'd like to see the observer requirement apply to the processing plant/ fishing vessel on the random basis. I also do not support vessel limit under 125 feet as this would eliminate many of the boats available to participate in the state waters fishery would be eliminated by a 58 foot limit.

Thanks for your consideration,

Mike Shupe, Owner



**Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association**

**PO Box 991**

**Kodiak, AK 99615**

Proposal 43 Oppose

Proposal 44 Oppose

Proposal 45 Oppose

The Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association (AWTA) is located in Kodiak and represents the majority of independently owned trawl vessels that harvest groundfish in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA). Our member vessels also harvest groundfish in the Western Gulf of Alaska (WGOA) and Bering Sea (BS).

**Proposals 43 & 44**

We oppose these proposals that would create a new state waters non-pelagic (bottom) trawl fishery for all species of groundfish (Proposal 43) or for Pollock (Proposal 44) in the Central and Western Gulf of Alaska.

- There is no mechanism for the management of Prohibited Species Caps (PSC) inside state waters. Halibut, Tanner Crab and Chinook salmon resources would be compromised by this new increased effort inside state waters. A large and complex system for the monitoring, assessing, reporting and management of PSC inside state waters would have to be developed. The development of this program would demand a significant amount of time, work by ADFG personnel and money.
- There is no observer program for fisheries inside state waters. This proposal calls for 100% observer coverage inside state waters with the cost being paid by the vessels. While the cost for the onboard observers could be paid for by the vessels, the entire state-run management structure required to manage a new observer program would have to be funded by the state at significant cost.
- The movement of 25% of the massive stocks of Pollock, Rockfish, shallow-water flatfish and deep-water flatfish from Federal to State waters and designating it for harvest only by vessels under 58' in length is a direct re-allocation from one user group to another.
- There are only two (2) under 58' vessels that are home-ported in Kodiak and fish primarily in Central Gulf of Alaska. These proposals would take access to 25% of all groundfish (proposal 43) or Pollock (Proposal 44) in the Central Gulf away from the 35+ trawl vessels and grant access to these two vessels.
- It is impossible for two under 58' vessels to harvest the TAC's of all groundfish Central Gulf of Alaska. It is likely that enormous amounts of groundfish would not be harvested every year with the resulting lack of revenues for historic trawl vessels, their processors and the community infrastructure that supports these fisheries.
- There is a large group of less than 58' trawl vessels that fish in the Western Gulf of Alaska and a many of these vessels have Central Gulf of Alaska endorsements. Since it is impossible for 2 vessels to harvest the TAC's in the CGOA, it is likely that these WGOA vessels would move into the CGOA and target groundfish. Again, this is a direct reallocation from one user group to another, this time from the historic Kodiak fleet to the under 58' Sand Point and King Cove fleets.
- CGOA trawl vessels and their associated processors have worked together to develop business plans for the harvest and processing of groundfish. Any reallocation to other user groups will disrupt these long-established relationships.
- CGOA trawl vessels have built relationships with support business and vendors and any reallocation will have a significant impact on these other businesses...
- The city and borough of Kodiak have invested heavily in infrastructure (harbors, shipyard, etc.) and they depend on the revenues that flow from the trawl fleet. Any reduction of groundfish to the trawl fleet will have a significant impact on Kodiak.
- All federal participants have made substantial investments in gear and technology to harvest groundfish while minimizing bycatch. Any reallocation that limits access to the resource will lead to excessive stranded capital for these fleets.
- Temporal and Spatial measures have been taken to protect Stellar Sea Lions. All groundfish harvests are split into different seasons with specific PSC caps established for each season within each fishery. Areas around rookeries and haul-outs have been closed. Having more harvest come out of the sensitive near-shore state waters will likely result in a Section 7 consultation of the SSL protection measures.
- The North Pacific Fisheries Management Council is moving forward with the development of a new management structure for trawl fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska. The interaction between federal and state-waters is an important component of the management structure. Any changes in the federal/state-water relationship need to be conducted within that process.
- ***This proposal was submitted by an under 58' vessel that is a new entrant into Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries with very little history. This proposal is aimed at dis-enfranchising vessels with long-term histories of participation in, and dependence***



#### Proposal 45

We oppose this propose that would require 100% observer coverage for trawl vessels targeting groundfish inside state waters.

- The North Pacific Groundfish and Halibut Observer program has been in place since the beginning of 2013. It has extended observer coverage to not only the trawl fleet but also to other sectors that impact our important fisheries resources. This is a very complex program developed over a number of years and it is unrealistic to create a new state designed, implemented and managed observer program inside state waters within any reasonable time frame.
- The North Pacific Fisheries Management Council has already begun the process of developing a new trawl management program in the Gulf of Alaska. One of the requirements in this new program will be 100% observer coverage.
- The GOA trawl industry has been the subject of numerous Prohibited Species Cap (PSC) reductions over the past few years. There has been a reduction in the Halibut PSC cap as well as the establishment of reduced caps for Chinook salmon in both our Pollock and non-Pollock fisheries trawl fisheries. There has also been action taken to require new modified trawl sweeps for all vessels targeting flatfish as well as an area closure in the Marmot Bay area.

The established trawl industry in the Gulf of Alaska is comprised of harvesting vessels, processors, vendors and communities that support this industry. Working together, the trawl industry delivers large volumes of groundfish that provide fish for the processors, employment opportunities for processor workers, and economic benefits to local vendors as well as our coastal communities. The trawl industry is a major economic engine which provides tremendous economic and social benefit to the State of Alaska and those who live here.

AWTA asks that the Board reject proposals 43, 44, and 45. We also ask that the Board work alongside the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and the GOA trawl industry as the new fishery management structure is developed.

Best Regards,

Robert L. Krueger, President

Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association

Robert.Krueger@alaskawhitefishtrawlers.org



Dear Chairman Johnstone and Board Members,

My name is Matthew Graham I'm the son of a fisherman I do not support proposals 43, 44, 45, 101, or 102. I'm speaking specifically towards proposal 44. My dad Robert (Buck) Graham has been in the fishing industry since 1983. He started his career in Oregon as a deckhand and worked his way up to Captain. When the industry started to decline in 1999 he chose to fish the Bering Sea, where he started out at the bottom again and had to work his way back up to the top. Six years ago he came to Kodiak to be fulltime captain of the F/V Peggy Jo. During the last fifteen years there have been good fishing years and bad years which affects the livelihood of not just my family but all the vessel's crew and their families as well. This year the Pollock quota which is 60 percent of our annual income, was finally bumped up to a number that would allow trawlers to catch a higher percent of fish thus allowing them to become better providers for their families who rely on the fisheries to survive. If proposal 44 is to pass, the end result will take 25% of the Pollock quota away from historical trawlers and reallocating the resource to others. This reduces the amount of money that Peggy Jo is able to take home to their families. I personally rely on my father's income to help pay for my college tuition. Without his assistance it would not be possible for me to get the education I need in order to succeed in life. That being said, I'm not the only one who relies on this industry. My soon to be newborn sister will come to rely on the fishing industry to provide food, clothes, and a roof over her head for the next 18+ years. The crew of the Peggy Jo who are very good friends and almost like family to mine, rely on the industry to provide for not just themselves, but also for their families. The fishing industry isn't just a way for our families to make money. It's a way of life for us, without it, we would have nothing.

In the end, why would a 58' boat have more fishing rights than a 98' boat that has been fishing in Kodiak since 1966? Due to the changing industry the Peggy Jo has had to switch from catching king crab to becoming a trawler because of that change, why should the captain and crew be punished by having some of their quota taken away from them when they were just doing what the industry required them to do in order for them to maintain a living.

Also, a large part of this proposal that doesn't make sense is the three mile line. How is a fish going to know which side of the line it's on? Pollock and salmon are going to be moving back and forth across this invisible line because they are fish, not cognitive beings that are aware of a man made invisible line. Allowing trawlers to fish both sides of the line will help keep them out of the salmon and on to the Pollock which will help both sides of the industry.

Sincerely,

Matthew R. Graham

RC

## Alaska Board of Fish

Please consider this submission of substitute language for proposal 44 – 5 AAC 28.36X

Establish State water GHL Pollock fishery in areas (H) Cook Inlet, (K) Kodiak and (L) Chignik. Areas (H), (K) and (L) would have a combined GHL equal to twenty-five percent (25) % of the combined ABC of areas 620 and 630 of the Gulf of Alaska. State waters of areas (H), (K) and (L) would be open exclusively to GHL fishery. State water GHL Pollock fishery within areas (H), (K) and (L) would open January, 20<sup>th</sup> of each year and close when GHL harvested or by other regulations or December 31<sup>st</sup> of same year.

Legal gear For State water GHL Pollock fishery shall be limited to pelagic trawl and jig. Jig allocation shall not exceed 3% of total State Water Pollock GHL, initial jig allocation would be 1% of GHL, increasing the following year of reaching initial allocation to 2% to a maximum of 3%.

Use of pelagic trawl limited to only areas currently open by state regulation. All vessels using pelagic trawl gear would be required to have 100% observer coverage, with one observer onboard for all trips. As written in regulation 5AAC 39.163. All cost associated with the observer are determined to be an attendant fishing-related cost and must therefore be borne by the vessel owner or operator onboard whose vessel the observer serves. Develop observer program with consideration of section 16.05.251. (13); (A), (B), (C) and (D).

A vessel participating in State water GHL Pollock cannot be registered for any other fishery at the same time.

Establish PSC limits for king Salmon that are sustainable in coordination with NMFS. Ensure that State water GHL Pollock fishery is managed for sustainable abundance of both Pollock and King salmon.

Develop State water GHL Pollock management Plan, with initial first year of fishery to coincide with restructured Federal Gulf of Alaska Pollock fishery.

Matt Hegge

## Parallel walleye pollock harvest from Federal areas 620 and 630.

Year	Area 630			Area 620			Shelikof Strait		
	Parallel Harvest	630 ABC (pounds)	% of ABC	Parallel Harvest	620 ABC (pounds)	% of ABC	Parallel Harvest	ABC (pounds)	% of ABC
1993	23,090,344	190,027,447	12%	5,170,498	80,991,221	6%		n/a	
1994	56,010,214	123,458,867	45%	10,748,281	52,624,342	20%		n/a	
1995	3,805,505	35,957,395	11%	5,190,899	33,752,772	15%		n/a	
1996	4,668,521	30,159,237	15%	9,644,260	28,307,354	34%		n/a	
1997	9,559,661	54,123,485	18%	28,420,143	68,894,457	41%		n/a	
1998	15,625,558	86,674,738	18%	54,876,594	110,330,339	50%		n/a	
1999	19,107,724	67,285,082	28%	21,285,620	85,627,543	25%		n/a	
2000	2,635,867	54,015,459		1,845,188	29,480,214			46,268,415	
2001	6,709,139	58,753,193		11,203,959	31,437,919			45,591,596	
2002	12,984,190	21,715,533	60%	17,765,509	50,805,528	35%		n/a	
2003	9,428,666	22,793,593	41%	7,168,991	43,397,996	17%		n/a	
2004	11,116,433	30,952,902	36%	20,547,516	58,400,453	35%		n/a	
2005	20,091,232	41,266,126	49%	3,698,705	75,847,837	5%		n/a	
2006	19,189,678	40,670,878	47%	9,009,309	67,223,353	13%		n/a	
2007	12,663,479	32,738,646	39%	6,310,058	46,252,983	14%		n/a	
2008	10,674,100	30,071,053	35%	12,022,027	42,286,866	28%		n/a	
2009	11,134,753	24,378,717	46%	7,685,635	31,080,770	25%		n/a	
2010	6,481,020	42,147,975	15%	17,202,210	61,938,873	28%		n/a	
2011	2,206,050	44,610,539	5%	9,481,626	82,375,724	12%		n/a	
2012	9,195,721	58,087,397	16%	18,638,634	100,989,353	18%		n/a	
Average	14,279,603	54,284,423	26%	14,714,806	62,284,876	24%			

\*Average does not include data from 2000 & 2001.

Note: Harvest excludes discard at sea.

Matt Hegge