

# **On-Time Advisory Committee Comment List**

## **Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish**

### **December 3–8, 2014**

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Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/18/14) .....	AC 01
Delta Junction Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 10/15/14).....	AC 02
Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/12/14) .....	AC 03
Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/11/14).....	AC 04
Kenai-Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/18/14) .....	AC 05
Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/5/14) .....	AC 06
Paxon Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/7/14) .....	AC 07
Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/12/14) .....	AC 08
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Whittier Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/15/14) .....	AC 10

Anchorage Advisory Committee  
November 18, 2014  
Alaska F&G Hatchery

- I. Call to Order: Joel Doner Chair at approximately 6:45 pm
- II. Roll Call:  
Members Present: Gerard Brell, George Jacoby, Sam Albanese, Jim Bolgiano, Phil Calhoun, Robert Caywood, Neil DeWitt, Joel Doner, Chair, Steve Flory Sr. Alt, Dwight Johnson, Michael Klehr, Rob Peck, Frank Newman, Ehren Strahn, Kevin Taylor and Brian Nelson, Alt.

Members Absent: Mark Campbell and Kevin Taylor were excused.

Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 8

**RECEIVED**

List of User Groups Present: Alaska Outdoor Council, Rod Arno

**NOV 21 2014**

- III. Approval of Agenda:  
The proposed agenda was moved and seconded. Motion carried 14-0

**BOARDS  
ANCHORAGE**

- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date:  
October 28, 2014  
Minutes were approved by Voice vote with no corrections or additions. 14-0
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present:  
None Present

- VI. Guests Present:  
Rod Arno  
NPS has been out of order in reference to rule making by not following the Federal guidelines. Main item is predator control. Park Service stated that the Organic Act of 1916 over rules the Statehood Act and thus PS is only responsible for the subsistence people and thus no other group may hunt on park and refuge land and thus predator control is not an option. Discussion also included the use of the internet as only means to gather public comments instead of direct comment in the local area.

Mr. Arno gave opinions on proposals 42 and 43 of Prince William Sound Fishery proposals.

PWS Proposal 42 discussed to lower cap on dip netters from 150,000 to 100,000 fish. This is a subsistence goal issue but discussion is on a personnel use fisheries. Need to follow the steps to establish an ANS that is presently available to regulate and divide the resource.

PWS Proposal 43 is just about allocation. This proposal would mandate that the State follows the allocation step procedures to further enhance the opportunity to the personnel use section of the fisheries for Chinook salmon. The idea is to provide more chinooks to the majority of the Alaskan rather than a few.

Old Business:

Wood Bison Restoration Project

Discussion was held on the new management plan to be implemented in the near future. A working group was formed and its goal was to find consensus on place or places to introduce these animals into the wild. Many groups have come to an agreement as to when, how and



where these animals will be released. The primary area being discussed is Shageluk near the Innoka National Wildlife Refuge and the areas nearby which will include land owned by Doyon Corporation. The area of concerns that confronted the committee was use of the animals. The proposal states that 1 out of every 5 would be a registration hunt for locals and the other 4 would go to a general draw. The general draw would be opened to all people including non-Alaskans. A question was asked as to why only one area and one herd instead more than one. Suitable habitat was one of the concerns; if proposals are not worked out the animals will probably be sent to a meat packing plant. This was conservation issue that started 20 years ago to bring back an extinct animal. Access fees are an area of concern to make is hunt feasible. Motion was made to table the discussion on wood bison till the next full meeting this item will be brought before the whole Board. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

The Fisheries Sub Committee present the following votes on the proposals: Opposed numbers: 1, .3, 9, 13, 14, 20, 21, 29, 35, 41, 42, 43, 45, and 54.

For the proposal: 6,7,8,17,22, 24, 28, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 40, 53, 55, 56 and 57.

No Action on the proposals: 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31, 39, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, and 52.

Proposals that the Subcommittee believes needs to be addressed by the whole Board is: 4, 18, 23, 36, 43, 44, and 46.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the sub committees report. The motion carried and it was approved by unanimous vote voice.

Mr. Brell, Subcommittee chair than brought up for review the following items to be discussed by the whole Board to include proposals 42 and 43 that original were opposed by the committee.

Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3–8, 2014 Alaska Board of Fisheries			
Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOF	1		Establish a weekly 36-hour subsistence fishing period until the two days after the closure of the commercial salmon season.
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	Local enforcement is against this proposal
BOF	2		Establish subsistence fishing season that opens when commercial fishing opens in May and closes when the commercial fishery closes in September.
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	No Action





<b>BOF</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Establish certain marking requirements for that portion of a commercial drift gillnet that is being used for subsistence fishing.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	Committee would like to keep commercial nets and subsistence separate.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Prohibit the release of king salmon in Prince William Sound.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	Proposal was brought before the whole committee and since this issue was one of sustainable of the resource, the voted was in support.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Close a portion of Main Bay to sport fishing.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	A better proposal stating the new area boundaries would help the committee. No Action Taken
<b>BOF</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Prohibit the use of bait for salmon once the bag limit has been achieved on drainages crossed by the Copper River Highway.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Committee believes at any action to keep Chinook stock sustainable is a good practice.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Modify the Copper River Delta Special Trout Management Area to allow retention of trout from June 15–April 14.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	A reasonable request with our support.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Reduce bag and possession limit for lingcod in Prince William Sound Area from 2 per day, 4 in possession to 1 per day, 2 in possession.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Reduction of limits will increase sustainability in the Ling Cod fishery.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Allow an additional line to jig for bait when saltwater sport fishing in Prince William Sound.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	
<b>BOF</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Change set gillnet component of Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan.</b>	





<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose x <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	No Action taken. Ask F&G why difference in numbers.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Change Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan to include Valdez Fisheries Development Association in calculation.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose x <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	No Action Taken
<b>BOF</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Change Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan to exclude Gulkana Hatchery production in calculation.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose x <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	No Action Taken
<b>BOF</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Open certain waters of College Fjord to purse seine fishery before July 21.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended x <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	No Action Taken
<b>BOF</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Reestablish historic purse seine gear access to Coghill Lake sockeye salmon in Coghill River terminal area.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended x <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	Benefits a small group only rather than whole.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15 Establish standards to alleviate gear conflicts in Esther Sub district during the commercial pink salmon fishery.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended x <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	Benefits a small group only rather than the whole.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Establish alternating purse seine and drift gillnet fishing periods in certain areas to alleviate gear conflicts in Esther Sub district during the commercial pink salmon fishery.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose x <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	No Action Taken
<b>BOF</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Allow use of monofilament mesh in Prince William Sound drift gillnet fishery.</b>	



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	These nets are allowed in all other fisheries with detriment.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Change drift gillnet gear specifications in the Copper River District.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	4	6	The subcommittee was divided 1-1-1 and the whole committee voted to oppose this proposal. The general thought was to enhance the chinook escapement rate. Discussion was varied as to commercial fishing practices. Vote was 4 for, 6 against-4 no comment
<b>BOF</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	
<b>BOF</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	
<b>BOF</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	
<b>BOF</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Identify certain landmarks in description of the Wally Noerenberg Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area using latitude and longitude coordinates.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	With technology available today this would be an easy fix.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Close Prince William Sound management area to commercial lingcod harvest when inside and outside district guideline harvest levels are achieved, including lingcod caught as by catch and directed harvest.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Whole committee voted to take no action.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Clarify that lingcod may only be retained from July 1 through December 31.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Committee as a whole believes that this would increase sustainability. Need more data to confirm our view.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Change Prince William Sound Inside District sablefish season opening and closing date for pot gear.</b>	





<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take No Action all though the subcommittee believes that using pots should be the way of the future as it limits by-catch.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Establish a lower trip limit in Prince William Sound walleye pollock pelagic trawl fishery and disallow tendering during the fishery.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take No Action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Establish directed commercial purse seine and jig pollock fisheries in Prince William Sound.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take No Action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Change the amount of rockfish that may be retained as by catch during Pacific cod and walleye pollock fisheries.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Support F&G proposal as it will benefit all.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Require retention of all rockfish in the sablefish fishery on gear sets below 150 fathoms; remove rockfish by catch limits and requirements, such that proceeds from rockfish by catch are not surrendered to the state.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	We are sure that this could lead to excess by catch.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Eliminate closure of Pacific cod pot season at 90 percent of guideline harvest level and combine pot and jig allocations, provide a step up/step down allocation depending on achievement of guideline harvest level.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take No Action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Change Pacific cod allocation to provide 10 percent for jig gear until June 10, after which it will then be available to pot gear, and designate the state-waters jig fishery as nonexclusive.</b>	





<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take No Action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>Correct coordinates within the described closed waters section for ground fish at Zaikof Point.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	We support this as more information on boundaries are always better than less.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33 Establish a biological escapement goal of 28,000 king salmon for the Copper River drainage.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Brought before the whole committee for consideration. The idea the committee felt was to increase the spawning numbers.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>Amend the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan to provide additional management measures for king salmon in the Glennallen Sub district subsistence fishery.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Discussion held by the whole board to change language to include a live well in place of the box being used. The change was defeated 12-2 and then the committee voted to support the proposal as written.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Prohibit the use of monofilament mesh in dip net bag webbing in subsistence and personal use fisheries.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	The committee believes that net material isn't the issue rather the length of the bag. Smaller bag size eliminate the of netting a king and does not restrict the catching of sockeye.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>In subsistence and personal use fisheries, prohibit removing a king salmon from the water if it is to be released.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	2	12	The majority of the committee thought that this was a dangerous idea that could lead to drowning.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>Require a department operated check station to monitor subsistence and personal use harvest and permit compliance in the Chitina and Glennallen sub districts.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Better tracking of the resource is the goal of this proposal
<b>BOF</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>Change the opening date for the Chitina Sub district personal use salmon fishery to open as early as June 1, but not later than June 11.</b>	



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	If the fish are there why not open the fishery. If not F&G can close by emergency order.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>Change the Chitina Sub district personal use annual limit to be based on household size.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	13	1	Original subcommittee vote was No Action after discussion with whole board the proposal passed. The additional fish would follow the Kenai River limits and make the fishery more economically friendly to users.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>Require charter operators that transport personal use fishermen keep a daily logbook.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Charter operators should face the same requirements as guides. This would provide more accurate numbers on a daily/weekly basis
<b>BOF</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>Repeal reduction of the Chitina Sub district personal use allocation if the commercial salmon fishery is closed for 13 or more consecutive days.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	Need to keep sustainable numbers for the fishery
<b>BOF</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>Change the maximum harvest level for the Chitina Sub district personal use fishery to 100,000 salmon.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	This is a personal use fishery and the attempt here is to increase a subsistence use fishery. The Committee would like the Board to follow the step criteria while the proposal is asking for Tier 1 allocation.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>Establish an allocation of 3,000 king salmon to the Chitina Sub district personal use fishery.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	12	2	The whole committee brought this up for discussion by all and supports this idea as a way to spread out the resource among many rather than a few..
<b>BOF</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>Prohibit commercial salmon fishing until a salmon is recorded at the Copper River sonar.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	9	4	The whole committee discussed this proposal with arguments both for and against. It takes about 8-10 days for fish to travel to the Miles Lake counter and with weather could delay placing of sonar. The majority favored the proposal as it would enhance king salmon stock, while no votes thought that this would be an undue burden on the commercial side. 1 vote was for no action.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>Repeal mandatory inside-waters closure in Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.</b>	





<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	This allows for the migration of King Salmon into the Copper. Most of the fishing in the last few years has been in the outside waters.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>Restrict retention of commercially caught king salmon for a person's own use to not exceed the king salmon sport bag limit in area caught.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	2	11	The whole committee brought this up for discussion and oppose this with 1 no action vote also. Fish that are caught and placed on the commercial harvest tickets are the property of the permit holder and may be used as they see fit.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>Allows use of dip nets for commercial salmon fishing during emergency order closures of the commercial drift gillnet fishery.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take no action badly written proposal.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>Mark district boundaries.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	It would benefit all if better boundaries were established. Take no action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>Change the sport fishing season opening date for king salmon on the Klutina River from July 1 to June 1.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take no Action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Prohibit use of barbed hooks, multiple hooks, and bait when fishing for king salmon in the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Area.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take No Action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>Prohibit use of barbed and multiple hooks for king salmon once an angler has taken a bag limit or annual limit of king salmon.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Using bait less and single hook would cause the catch rate to lower by about 30% according to other rivers that have implemented this proposed rule. Take No Action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>Prohibit use of barbed and multiple hooks with or without bait if the sport fishery is restricted to catch-and-release.</b>	





<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Take No Action
<b>BOF</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>Clarify that a single-hook artificial lure is an artificial lure with one single-hook or one fly.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Just makes sense.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>Increase the Arctic grayling bag and possession limit in the Gulkana River drainage.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	14	
<b>BOF</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>Amend special provisions for rainbow trout in the Tebay River drainage.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	
<b>BOF</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>Update the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Area stocked waters regulation.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	
<b>BOF</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>Amend methods and means for burbot in a portion of the Copper River drainage to reference statewide regulations.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	14	0	Click here to enter text

Meeting was adjourned for an Executive Sessions and Reconvened

#### National Park Service Letter

A discussion as held as to who should be cc'd with the letter. Names recommended are Senators Murkowski and Sullivan, and Congressman Young and also Gov. Parnell and Gov.-elect Walker. Further discussion was held as to content in the letter, a motion was made to allow the rewrite of the letter by the Chairman of the Committee and send the letter out. Motion carried by 13-1 vote to approve the letter and its intent.

#### Board of Game Proposal 148

Take up proposal 148 of the Game proposal. Discussion is because permits will be issued before the Board of Game takes up the issue. In the re-authorization, all antlerless moose hunts (basically cow moose) were combined with bull moose hunts which are against the committee's intent. The



Anchorage biologist does not have an accurate count according to testimony last year. An amendment was offered to remove Kincaid Park from an antlerless moose (cow) amendment to allow a cow hunt proposed in Proposal 150. Vote was 13-1 in favor of the amendment.

Nonexcused Absences: Chair advised all members to phone or email the Chair when not being able to attend to make sure that we have enough votes to have a quorum. This would prevent members from traveling to the meeting and then cancelling due to lack off a quorum.

Old Business: Appointment to Northwest Caribou hunts as we only have 1 member at this time and two slots. The meeting will be held in December.

A motion to not have any special meeting regarding the Game proposals was presented Seconded and carried.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn and carried.

Minutes Recorded By: Gerard Brell

Minutes Approved By:

Date: 11/18/2014



# Delta Jct Advisory Committee

## 10/15/14

### Delta Jct City Hall

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I. Call to Order: 6:30 by Don Quarberg Chairman

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: Jacob White, Don Quarberg Chair, Tony Williams, Tim Webb, Rusty Craig, Vern Aiton Vice Chair, Don Bunselmeier, Ross Baker, Jeff Mason, Alternates, Jack Windsor, Paul Dudgeon, Mike Rogers

Members Absent or Excused: Carl Taylor Secretary, Jeff Lipscomb,

Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 6 needed, 12 present

III. Approval of Agenda: Motion and 2nd to approve

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes from April motion and 2nd approved.

V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brandy Baker, Bob Schmidt, Nissa Pilcher, Seth Wilson, Darren Bruning, John Haddix, Fort Wainwright

VI. Guests Present: Steve Dubois, Pam Goode, LTC William Prayner, LTC Alan Brown, MAJ John Longly, LTC Mike Matesick, Jim Cummings, Gary Gruwell, Matt Cameron

VII. Old Business: none

VIII. New Business:

Craig lake settlement, Discussion was had on the Tanana area plan about the change of Craig lake from a recreational area to a settlement area. Motion and 2nd to vote on plan to change to settlement, 11 in favor 1 abstention.

Military Training closures during hunting season:





Military personnel in attendance stated that the Fort Greely training areas are in high demand for training by the military because of the large areas of open land that can be used. They are forecasting lots of training for the next few fiscal years. Trainings have been approved for late August. Questions were asked of why there was incorrect information put out as to the closures during last hunting season, why did range control suffer personnel cuts and why does Fort Wainwright control the ranges in this area? Also there were incomplete maps provided to show closed areas and they were provided to the local media on Aug 22 and only 100 copies were sent to local F&G. It was stated that Army public affairs should be disseminating this information and Fort Greely front gate personnel should be trained on knowing closure info if needed. DAC also stated that the training schedules should be posted well before Aug 22nd after everyone has already made hunting and travel plans.

Military was doing daily sweeps with a helicopter and multiple violators were cited for trespassing.

Rusty Craig asked why does this intensive training have to be done in September? Several factors were stated, lots of catch up training, summer is fire season, later cold weather makes training difficult, etc. Don Quarberg stated it causes a lack of moose management and harvest that ADF&G needs to manage moose harvest in this area.

Jack Windsor asked if there could be a number to call for info as there seems to be too many sources and they aren't reliable.

It was also mentioned that the stryker vehicles are tearing up the terrain and the convoys on the highway make travel difficult. Sonic booms may also be affecting the area.

Don Quarberg suggested a follow up meeting prior to next moose season.

Biologist reports,

Brandy Baker, Chinook sport fishery on the Tanana was closed by EO in May. Salcha river counting tower was unable to count kings this summer due to high water the whole season. The Chena tower was unable to count kings with the counting tower (high water), but did deploy the sonar and that data will be available later this winter when the files are reviewed. Did not obtain the Goodpaster king count prior to the meeting. Stocking of the lakes in the Delta area all went well. Grayling radio telemetry flight on the Goodpaster was completed Sept 19th. George and Healy lakes were depth mapped this summer.

Darren Bruning,

Darren mentioned the loss of Ron and Laurina Riesguard this summer. Ron recently retired as the Bison Range manager.

Bob Schmidt had a good season working on the bison range. Some cleanup on the range was completed and the garrison disposed of some fluids. Bison herd counts are completed and so far 15 bison have been harvested, 12 bulls and 3 cows. MaComb herd count completed. Completed Dall sheep counts, and it looks like lamb production is up. Overall numbers are about the same. MaComb caribou hunt came in under quota.

Trooper Arthur Cummings, Moose and caribou illegal harvest was about 18 violations this year and hunting pressure seemed about the same.

Vern Aiton, 40 mile caribou coalition meeting at Pikes on Oct 23rd. Taylor hwy youth hunt carried over to next year.

Comments on Eastern Tanana area plan,

Discussion was had on the proposed change to the Craig lake area from a recreational area to a settlement area. Motion to support was 2nd and a vote of 11 in favor and 1 abstention to support change was taken.

**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3–8, 2014**  
**Alaska Board of Fisheries**

**Mandatory-** Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
<b>BOF</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Prohibit the release of king salmon in Prince William Sound.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	11	No biological reason to not stock chinook
<b>BOF</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Prohibit the use of bait for salmon once the bag limit has been achieved on drainages crossed by the Copper River Highway.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	2	0	9 abstentions
<b>BOF</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>Amend the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan to provide additional management measures for king salmon in the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	8	2	1 abstention
<b>BOF</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Prohibit the use of monofilament mesh in dip net bag webbing in subsistence and personal use fisheries.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	9	1	1 abstention
<b>BOF</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>Change the Chitina Subdistrict personal use annual limit to be based on household size.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	9	1 abstention Regulation already in place.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>Clarify that a single-hook artificial lure is an artificial lure with one single-hook or one fly.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	11	0	



Old Business: Next meeting will be held Nov 19th, 6:30 at the Delta Jct City Hall

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10pm

Minutes Recorded By: Mike Rogers and Carl Taylor

Minutes Approved By: Quorum

Date: 11/19/2014





## **Fairbanks Advisory Committee (FAC) comments on 2014 Prince William Sound and Upper Copper River Finfish Proposals**

On November 12, 2014, the FAC met and unanimously adopted the recommendations of the Fisheries Subcommittee. The Subcommittee (SC) consisted of 7 voting members. The majority position is reflected in comments, and where appropriate, the minority position is also stated.

### **1)**

Adjusts subsistence seasons in Copper River flats to make it more convenient for commercial fishers to harvest subsistence fish with commercial gear during commercial closures.

The SC voted 0-6 to oppose.

Subsistence users in Cordova primarily fish on commercial boats with commercial gear. Those without access to a commercial boat can generally fish twice a week all summer and those with access to a commercial boat can take an unlimited amount of home pack fish from a commercial harvest to feed their families. There is no evidence that subsistence fishers in Cordova lack a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon for personal consumption.

### **3)**

Allow commercial fishers to deploy only a portion of their 150 fathom nets to comply with subsistence regulations and not have to change nets to participate in either fishery. This would add subsistence opportunity for commercial fishers with no corresponding restriction on home pack.



The SC voted 3-3.

**8)**

Reduce sport bag limit on lingcod over a large area of PWS. The Seward Charter boats may chose to voluntarily limit themselves, but the scope of the proposal covers too large an area.

We do not believe there is a biological basis for restricting our harvest of an important food fish for many Interior residents who have already been virtually eliminated from the Halibut fishery.

**18)**

Require that gillnet mesh not be hung at more than 2:1 ratio.

This proposal seeks to discourage targeting of King Salmon by standardizing the method in which nets are hung to create a disincentive to target King Salmon with loosely hung nets that tend to wrap up kings rather than gill them in sockeye sized mesh.

The SC voted 7-0 in support.

Alternative's discussed were limiting net depth and requiring that the entire net be reeled in, rather than continuing the practice of partial reels that are used to harvest kings as soon as they hit the net.

**33)**

This would set a sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 28,000 kings, the low end of the 28,000-55,000 goal established in 2000 and subsequently modified to 24,000 after years of poor escapement.



The SC amended this proposal to make it an optimum escapement goal (OEG) of 28,000.

The SC voted 6-0-1 to support this amended proposal. The department notes that it has met a 24,000 goal 9 out of 11 years. We do not think any user group is satisfied with King Salmon numbers over the past 11 years and believe everyone would benefit, if managed for abundance.

**34)**

This ADFG proposal would allow the department to restrict subsistence harvest of Kings in the Glennallen sub district

The SC was opposed 1-5-1.

Concerns included the fact that the department has discussed dividing the Glennallen sub district into three zones. We fear that the lower zone near the McCarthy bridge would be the target of any restrictions on King harvest or if implemented sub district wide, the only practical effect would be to reduce harvest of urban state subsistence users as federally qualified rural users would continue to fish under federal regulations. This restriction would only affect urban Alaskan subsistence users.

**35)**

Prohibit monofilament webbing on dip nets

The committee recognized the difficulty in removing tangled up fish but without any reliable evidence that mono dip nets increase mortality on released Kings,

The SC voted 1-6 to not support this proposal.



Shorter nets were believed to more effective to quickly release fish. It was noted that most dip netters currently use mono netting and to require them to switch to heavy nylon would be expensive, time consuming, and lead to enforcement issues. Nylon nets are considered more dangerous to dip netters because they require so much extra effort to drag through the water. We hope the Board takes action to rebuild the king salmon stock so that upriver users will not continually have to bear the burden of further conservation efforts. If mono nets are banned, it would be difficult to return to them, even when King numbers rebound. This would also create inconsistency among dip net regulations in various parts of the State.

### 36)

Prohibit removing a king from the water when dip netting

The SC opposed this 0-6.

Although well intentioned, this proposal ignores the reality of dip netting in the Copper River. Fishers often tie themselves off to cliffs and plunge nets into swirling eddies. Others drift downstream in boats. When netting a king under such conditions it is often necessary to remove them from the water. Lives would be lost and fish will be killed if a dip netter had to scurry down a vertical rock while holding a 15 foot long handled net to deal with a thrashing fish that cannot be seen in the swirling silty water. From a boat, one would need to lean over the bow in heavy current, often under power for safety reasons, and try to untangle a fresh fish they cannot see even inches under the surface.





37)

Require an ADFG check station near Chitina

This proposal from Ahtna singles out the primarily urban users who dip and operate wheels near the village of Chitina. The purported justification for the proposal is to better determine harvest levels, yet the majority of subsistence fish are harvested above the proposed checkpoint. There is no evidence to suggest that the amount of fish harvested near Chitina is not accurately counted.

The SC opposed 0-7.

38)

Change the opening date for the Chitina P/U fishery to June 1.

The SC supported 7-0.

Salmon run time timing varies, and Alaskans who catch these fish for food, should not have to arbitrarily wait when there are plenty of fish in the river for all to harvest. The Board had no evidence in 2011 that early dipnet openers had any negative effect on upriver users and should repeal its decision to delay the opening date from June 1 to June 7. If a conservation burden must be imposed to get more early fish upriver, that burden should fall on the group that harvests over 84% of these early fish, often before any fish have been counted in the river. There is no biological data to suggest that early run sockeye are somehow imperiled. While everyone agrees we need to conserve early run King Salmon, dip netters can and are restricted from harvesting these fish while fishing for Sockeyes. Commercial gillnetters however cannot be selective, and they kill every King they can catch beginning in mid may. Dip net seasons are set by sonar counts throughout the



season and setting the opener should be no different. If the data says there will be plenty of fish in the district before June 7, the season should be open.

**39)**

This proposal would establish a p/u limit in Chitina based on household size, as is done on the Kenai.

The SC supported this 7-0.

Thirty fish is not adequate to feed a large family through the year. Because this fishery is intended to provide a wild food source for Alaskan families, the Board should pass reasonable regulations to effectuate this intent. This system would possibly replace supplemental periods and likely not result in an increased yearly harvest while better allocating the fish based on family size.

**40)**

This proposal would impose a punitive regulatory burden on two men who provide a riverboat taxi service for Alaskans who want to safely and efficiently dip net fish to feed their families.

Contrary to the assertions of the author, river taxis have not increased in the last ten years. 10 years ago there were 2 taxi businesses, now there is 1. All customers are already required to keep detailed "logbooks" recording every fish harvested, clipping tails and reporting all harvest to ADFG. A charter logbook would not provide any additional in season management information to ADFG.

Commercial fishers see dip netting as a threat. This proposal from a commercial fisher seeks to impose a regulatory burden on a rival user group with no biological justification and without identifying a problem to correct. We trust that the Board



will not endorse punitive regulatory actions that serve no legitimate fisheries management purpose.

The SC opposed this 7-0.

41)

A previous Board linked Chitina restrictions into commercial restrictions with no apparent biological justification. The commercial fleet simply argued that if they were restricted for a long time, so too should the dip netters. In hindsight, this was a bad idea not supported by any science under which this fishery is managed. Some say the Cordova fishery is managed on “whoops,” science. They fish hard and if enough fish don’t make it to the sonar to be counted, the biologists say, “whoops,” and scale back the commercial fishery. In contrast, the Chitina dipnet fishery is managed much more scientifically based on actual fish counts at Miles Lake. When actual counts are low, the fishery is restricted, when counts are high, fishing opportunity and limits are liberalized. Commercial fishing may be restricted for 13 days or more for reasons such as conserving Kings or to boost upriver escapement of wild sockeye. Regardless of the reason for commercial restrictions, if the run rebounds, as it often does, particularly when the hatchery component arrives, there is no biological justification for automatically reducing the annual P/U allocation from 150,000 to 50,000 fish. Even with restrictions, the commercial fleet never faces a cap on its catch and even in years when they are restricted for 13 days; they may still harvest 2,000,000 or more sockeye. Unless the Board is ready to impose caps on all user groups, it should recognize that the automatic cap imposed on dip netters was based on retaliation rather than good science. 13 days of commercial



restrictions seldom equates to an actual sockeye escapement crisis and if an escapement crisis occurs, the commissioner already has the authority to impose reasonable restrictions on all upriver users to make up for early season mistakes in “whoops” management of the commercial fishery in the river mouth.

The SC supported this proposal 7-0.

42)

This Ahtna proposal would reduce the p/u allocation from 150,000 to 100,000.

The justification is an alleged increase in participation. Even if true, increased participation has nothing to do with the 150,000 fish allocation. That allocation remains constant whether there are 1000 fishers or 100,000 fishers. There is no factual basis for the claim that subsistence harvest decreases when the p/u fishery opens. Actual harvest data is inconsistent with this claim as subsistence harvest increases as the season progresses. No one is claiming there is not a reasonable opportunity for subsistence and sockeye runs and escapement for the past several years has been well above the historic average.

The SC opposed this proposal 0-7.

43)

This would establish a king salmon allocation of 3,000 for the p/u fishery

The commercial fleet has recently averaged 12,415 kings, the subsistence fishery has averaged 3,014, and the p/u fishery, composed entirely of Alaskan residents harvesting wild food for their family, has averaged 663. With an allocation, the commercial harvest would have to be managed more conservatively,





ensuring subsistence needs are met and the p/u allocation is attainable. The FAC continues to believe the highest and best use of our commonly owned kings is for Alaskans to catch them for food.

The SC supported this proposal 7-0.

44)

This FAC proposal would restrict commercial fishing until a single salmon crosses the Miles Lake Sonar.

The Copper River is believed to be the only targeted river fishery in the State where commercial fishing is allowed before biologists have any data showing that the upriver run has started. The only previous justification for allowing commercial harvest in the river mouth before first confirming at least some fish have escaped has been references to the seafood marketing campaign by CDFU promoting these early returning fish.

Previous Board have reasoned that CDFU spends a lot of money, and makes a lot of money on these early fish, so we should let them exploit those fish without regard to biological or meteorological factors that are inconsistent with opening a targeted fishery with established high exploitation rates of the most imperiled Copper River fish, early returning Kings that spawn in the upper tributaries. Its time for ADFG and the Board to explain why it is biological defensible to allow a highly exploitive fishery in a river mouth when not one fish has been counted in river.

The SC supported this proposal 7-0.



45)

This proposal would repeal a regulation adopted by the Board to help ensure some early run upriver kings had an opportunity to enter the river.

In 2003, The Board agreed that there should only be 1 commercial fishing period inside the barrier islands during the first two weeks of the commercial season in order to assist the escapement of early run kings. Since this conservation measure was enacted, Kings have declined precipitously. Repealing this regulation would increase the harvest of early run Kings in the commercial fishery and reduce the harvest of early run Kings in upriver fisheries and reduce escapement.

The SC opposed this proposal 0-7.

46)

This proposal would limit home packed commercially caught Kings to the sport bag limit for the area.

Many Alaskan residents have been prohibited from catching and killing even one King salmon from the Copper River in recent years while non-resident commercial fishing deckhands in Cordova have been allowed to catch and kill an unlimited amount of Kings as "home pack". No other job in Alaska provides such a perk.

It is time for the Board to have a serious debate regarding the perpetuation of this practice.

The SC unanimously supported amending this proposal to prohibit only non-residents from engaging in this limitless harvest loophole. As amended, the sc felt the Board would feel compelled to at least debate the issue and require those in



support of unrestricted home pack, even for nonresidents, to explain why a non resident commercial fisher should be allowed to take as many Kings as they want for personal consumption while Alaskans are either prohibited or severely restricted from harvesting any of these same fish.

The SC supported this proposal 7-0.

47)

This proposal would allow for commercial fishers to use dipnets when gillnetting is closed by emergency order.

Gillnetting is not selective. When ADFG determines that gillnets pose an unjustifiable threat of overharvesting King salmon, dipnets can allow for selective harvest of abundant Sockeye. Dipnets have proven to be effective for targeted species fishing on the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers.

The SC supported this proposal 7-0.

49)

This would open King Salmon fishing on the Klutina River on June 1 instead of July 1.

The SC recalls that the Klutina users effectively traded June for Aug 1-10 to address conservation concerns. Early run Kings have not rebounded sufficiently to justify a return to a June 1 opener.

The SC opposed this proposal 0-6-1.

50)

This would prohibit multiple hooks and bait in the upper Copper River.





The SC noted there was no problem identified, the hooking mortality study cited was on the Kenai River and did not study the difference between multiple baited hooks and single hooks.

The SC opposed this proposal 0-6.

**51)**

This proposal would make an angler switch to a barbless single hook after harvesting their annual limit.

The annual limit for the past several years has been 1 or 0. Most anglers have a simple tackle box with pre-rigged terminal tackle. Having to carry a catch and release tackle box along with a catch and keep tackle box would be too much of a burden, especially when no scientific evidence supports the assumption that single hooks reduce catch and release mortality.

The SC opposed this proposal 6-0.

**52)**

This proposal would impose single unbaited hook requirements on sport anglers.

See comments to 50 and 51.

The SC opposed this proposal 6-0.

**53)**

This ADFG proposal is intended to criminalize the practice of using a trailing fly.

Some fly fishers use two flies in an effort to match the hatch or determine the depth at which fish are feeding. The sc does not consider this practice to be



unethical or a conservation concern, and does not believe the department should be in the business of defining ethics, particularly in regards to a seldom used and difficult to employ fly-fishing method.

The SC opposed this proposal 0-6.

55)

This ADFG proposal clarifies that Bridge Creek should be managed the same as the lake it feeds.

The SC agrees and supports this proposal 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Kramer

Vice Chair, FAC

Chair, FAC Fisheries Subcommittee



Call to Order: Meeting called to order by chair Dave Lyon at 6:05 pm.

Members Present: Tom Hagberg, Dave Lyon, George Matz, Tom Young, Gus Van Dyke, Doug Malone, Jim Meesis, Lee Martin, Marvin Peters, Joey Allred (who arrived late and missed some votes).

Members Absent Excused : David Bayes, Pete Wedin, Ty Gates, Michael Craig, Dennis Wade, Gary Sinnhuber.

Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 8

Members Present: 10

Members Absent: 6

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date: Previously done.

Fish and Game Staff Present: Elisa Russ

Guests Present: Beaver and Jessie Nelson, Jake Wue, Rob Mehn, Leroy Cabana, Larry Cabana, Jason Herreman, Bruce Hendrickson.

Old Business: We were asked to once again discuss the suggestion by ADF&G to change the Board of Game cycle from two years to three years. Previously, the Homer AC has opposed this. We discussed the matter and our position hasn't changed. The current situation to respond to changing conditions, such as a season of high mortality due to adverse weather, is already too long and going to three years makes it even worse. What the AC prefers is that regional biologists be given EO authority to more accurately adjust harvest to changing conditions whether that be natural elements or localized depletion of a particular species. We think this would better serve the conservation needs for all wildlife species as well as encourage more local public involvement.

New Business: None

Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3–8, 2014 Alaska Board of Fisheries			
Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOF	4		Prohibit the release of king salmon in Prince William Sound.



<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action		8 oppose 1 abstention.	Those at the meeting who are familiar with fishing in western PWS said that there are no rivers there that support Kings and that this is not an issue.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Reduce bag and possession limit for lingcod in Prince William Sound Area from 2 per day, 4 in possession to 1 per day, 2 in possession.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	7	1 oppose & 1 abstention	It was mentioned that this proposal is similar to another proposal addressing commercial fishing, thereby not favoring one over the other. Apparently ADF&G is developing a position on this proposal based on recent data. The Homer AC was disappointed that this position was not available for our review at this meeting. While previous ADF&G data asserted that overall lingcod populations were good, this position seems to have been based on the inclusion of data from remote areas that aren't heavily fished. The AC agreed that a precautionary approach is needed and that reduction of lingcod bag and possession limit was justified in heavily fished (ie easily accessible) areas where there currently is local depletion. While the BOF should reduce bag and possession limits, they may wish to exclude remote areas.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Change set gillnet component of Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action		9 oppose and 1 abstention	Generally speaking, the AC advice was not to mess with this.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Change Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan to include Valdez Fisheries Development Association in calculation.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action		9	Larry Cabana said that the Allocation Plan that evolved several years ago provides a balance between gill netters and seiners based on revenue (not number of fish caught). The hatchery fish at Port Chalmers provides a balancing tool by allowing exclusive fishing rights to which ever gear group may be behind at the time. Including Valdez would upset the apple cart to a working allocation system, but provide a bigger piece of the pie for some gill netters. This would create an imbalance and later issues.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Change drift gillnet gear specifications in the Copper River District.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action		8 and 1 abstention	The AC felt that this was unnecessary and unenforceable.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action		6 and 3 abstentions	This proposal tries to fix what isn't broken. Some of the problems alluded to are questionable. Airplane spotters are more effective at spotting other boats that are catching fish than fish. Allowing spotter planes imposes an unnecessary expense to a fishery that is overcapitalized and struggling with necessary expenses.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.</b>	



<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			Same as #19
<b>BOF</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			Same as #19
<b>BOF</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>Repeal reduction of the Chitina Subdistrict personal use allocation if the commercial salmon fishery is closed for 13 or more consecutive days.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action		9 and 1 abstention	The harvest by dipnetters should not be out of sync with commercial harvest. If harvest for one user group needs to be reduced to achieve sustainability, then all user groups need to have similar reductions based on the same decision making process. Not connecting the harvest decisions for one user group to the other invites unnecessary complications and the potential for delay of action when expediency is needed.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>Establish an allocation of 3,000 king salmon to the Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action		10	This proposal seeks to essentially create a king salmon entitlement for those who participate in this personal use fishery. This type of guarantee should not be part of any sustainable management plan.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>Prohibit use of barbed and multiple hooks for king salmon once an angler has taken a bag limit or annual limit of king salmon.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	9	1 abstention	The Homer AC amended this accordingly; "When an angler reaches the daily bag limit for king salmon, they are not allowed to continue fishing for any species on any watershed for the rest of that day." One person expressed support for catch and release if it is limited at all times to just using single barbless hooks without bait. Since the motive for catch and release is the challenge rather than the opportunity to consume this delectable fish, methods and means that make it more predictable (e.g. barbed hooks and bait) to catch fish are not consistent with the challenge or the avoidance of post-release morality.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>Prohibit use of barbed and multiple hooks with or without bait if the sport fishery is restricted to catch-and-release.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			See above

Next meeting will be Tuesday Dec. 9, 2014. Starting at 6:00

Adjournment: 7:32

Minutes Recorded By: George Matz  
 Minutes Approved By: Dave Lyon  
 Date: Nov. 12, 2014





## Kenai-Soldotna Fish and Game AC

November 19, 2014

### Comments to the Alaska Board of Fish

Members in attendance, Crawford, Shadura, VanDevere, Erkeneff, Brandt, Roberts, Williams, Dykema, Strieby, Joseph, Hamrick, Carmichael

#### **Proposal 4, 0-10-1 Against**

Very few king Salmon of size are released. Care is usually taken to release fish unharmed. Don't believe these fish are from stocks of concern. Kept fish are 100% mortality. Abstention is against all catch and release.

#### **Proposal 5, 11-0-0 For**

Unanimous for. Make markers clear. GPS coordinates?

#### **Proposal 6, 11-0-0 For**

Conservation measure, there is still opportunity to fish after limit is retained.

#### **Proposal 7, 10-1-0 For**

Conservation measures can be taken by ADFG. Blanket restrictions are not needed.

#### **Proposal 8, 2-9-0 Against**

ADFG did not have issues of conservation of lingcod last year at BOF presentation. Area closures can be implemented such as resurrection bay. Current halibut restrictions will increase pressure on lingcod and other species.

#### **Proposal 9, 0-11-0 Against**

Enforcement issues. Angler can reel in and then use rod to catch bait.

#### **Proposal 18, 0-9-2 Against**

Too restrictive. Easier conservation measures can be taken if needed. Abstentions were for not enough info.

#### **Proposal 27, 0-11-0 Against**

All ready a fully utilized resource. We don't believe there is room for another gear type. By catch issues. No observers.

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**Proposal 29, 0-11-0 Against**

We feel that all rockfish species need to be managed with conservation in mind. The species listed in the proposal are for some of the longest living animals. These are probably nursery areas for these species. This is an open invitation for overexploitation of these fish. If there is an issue with shrimp populations then corrective actions need to be taken on methods and means on those species.

**Proposal 33, 0-8-3 Against**

We don't believe the board can make a BEG. We need more info on this. Abstention's were for lack of info.

**Proposal 35, 9-1-1 Against**

We believe that monofilament netting is already banned for dip nets. We did not know about the rule for subsistence.

**Proposal 36, 11-0-0 For**

All of liked the conservation measures this rule would help. There is concern when angler intent is to follow the rule, but the fish may come out of the water to ease the release of the fish. Enforcement should take into account if the angler is doing the best they can to expedite the release of the fish, and should not be penalized for making every effort to follow the intent of the rule.

**Proposal 40, 1-8-2 Against**

Too much paperwork. Is the operator liable for unknown, hidden, or illegal catches? This info should be the responsibility of the angler.

**Proposal 46, 1-8-1 Against**

These fish are already required to be on a fish ticket. What happens after this is up to the permit holder.

**Proposal 47, 0-9-9 Against**

We did not see any reason to do this

**Proposal 50, 0-8-1 Against**

This is a feel good proposal. There is no evidence that barbless hooks will decrease hook and release mortality. Bait and multiple hooks can be managed by ADFG if conservation measures need to be taken.

**Proposal 51, 0-7-2 Against**

See notes on proposal 50. Abstention view is not to allow catch and release.





**Proposal 52, 1-6-2 Against**

Vote for was for conservation. Abstention was for lack of info. See notes on proposal 50. ADFG already restricts bait when conservation measures need to be taken.



# Mat Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee - Meeting Minutes Nov 5th, 2014

## I. Call to Order: 7:03

Members Present: Jehnifer Ehmann, Andy Couch, Tom DeLand, Israel Payton, Stephen Bartelli, Mike Burge, Jeff Tuttle, Bill Folsom, Dan Montgomery, Mel Grove, Tony Jones.

Members Absent: Rick Ellis - Resigned, Eric Beckman - Excused, Terry Nininger - Excused, Max Sager, Dave Young - Excused, Stephen Darilek.

Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2014

BOARDS  
ANCHORAGE

III. Approval of Agenda: Agenda unanimously approved with amendment to include information on BOG meetings and AC members up for election.

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Table until Nov 19th meeting.

V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Mark Somerville, Tim Peltier, Davin Holen, Meredith Marchioni.

VI. Guests Present: Rod Arno AOC, Joe Meehan Refuges, Herman Grieses, Neil DeWitt Anch AC, Kim Ryals, John Cyr AWT, Steve Elwell, Bill Wood.

VII. Old Business:

VIII. New Business:

Rod Arno with Alaska Outdoor Council mentioned the National Park Service proposed rule making is not allowing the Board of Game to adopt fish and game regulations on park service lands. Certain regulations would only be restricted against people who do not live in rural Alaska. Some of what the Parks Service is doing is to not allow predator management on federal lands. Rod asked if the Advisory Committee and individuals would want to comment to the proposed Parks rules / regulations. Comment Deadline --- December 3rd - more information is available the Alaska Outdoor Council newsletter.

Cottonwood Creek Trail -- Discussion led by ADF&G wanting to do something to improve the condition of this Palmer Hay Flats Trail. The basic questions are should something be done about the trail, and if so what should be done. Possible reroute trail, prohibit ATV use, limit ATV use, other. Dan Montgomery suggested attempting to stop erosion at the head of tide guts by installing various materials. Bill Wood spoke up about the timeliness of doing something to avoid draining a much larger area of freshwater wetlands. ADF&G comment materials are available at the meeting for those that would like to comment. Mike Buirge was out walking through the area today. There was discussion of if people (both AC members and members of the public) would want to have a tour through the area.

Davin Holen - Subsistence area manager is looking at economic value of salmon eco system services in the Mat-Su Valley. Looking at 3 different areas specifically in the Mat-su and one area further down the inlet. Upper Susitna Drainage Area, Yentna Drainage, Knik Arm Drainage, Westside Cook Inlet drainages. Looking at interview 5 people from each area -- will interview more if there is more interest. Davin's contact information is available on his handout. Contact by e-mail would be good.

Meeting Break 8:22pm



<b>Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8, 2014</b> <b>Alaska Board of Fisheries</b>			
Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form			
BOG or BOF	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	# Support	# Oppose	Comments/Discussion
BOF	1	Establish a weekly 36-hour subsistence fishing period until the two days after the closure of the commercial salmon season.	
No Action			
BOF	2	Establish subsistence fishing season that opens when commercial fishing opens in May and closes when the commercial fishery closes in September.	
No Action			
BOF	3	Establish certain marking requirements for that portion of a commercial drift gillnet that is being used for subsistence fishing.	
No Action			
BOF	4	Prohibit the release of king salmon in Prince William Sound.	
Oppose	0	10	Would require harvest of first 2 king salmon. Mortality on kept fish is always 100%. Released fish have a higher survival rate. People that may not want to keep a king salmon should not be required to kill it. people fish for other fish besides king salmon. Under this regulation a person may not be able to fish after catching two king salmon. Motion opposed 0-11-0
BOF	5	Close a portion of Main Bay to sport fishing.	
No Action			
BOF	6	Prohibit the use of bait for salmon once the bag limit has been achieved on drainages crossed by the Copper River Highway.	
Support	9	0	Would prohibit the use of bait on waters crossed by the Copper River Highway after a limit of salmon had been harvested by sport users. Tom Deland mentioned that there can be significant mortality of salmon when fish are released. Motion passed 9-0-2.
BOF	7	Modify the Copper River Delta Special Trout Management Area to allow retention of trout from June 15-April 14.	
No Action			
BOF	8	Reduce bag and possession limit for lingcod in Prince William Sound Area from 2 per day, 4 in possession to 1 per day, 2 in possession.	





**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8, 2014****Alaska Board of Fisheries****Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

<b>BOG or BOF</b>	<b>Proposal #</b>	<b>Proposal Description</b>	
<b>Supports or Opposes?</b>	<b># Support</b>	<b># Oppose</b>	<b>Comments/Discussion</b>
Oppose	0	11	Would reduce the bag and possession limit of lingcod. ADF&G manager at our meeting had no information on ling cod stock. This may be applicable to area closer to Seward, but one charter member at our meeting did not know that this was needed at all parts of Prince William Sound. Because of lack of data especially from ADF&G we do not want to unnecessarily restrict the fishery. Motion failed unanimously 0-11-0.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Allow an additional line to jig for bait when saltwater sport fishing in Prince William Sound.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Change set gillnet component of Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Change Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan to include Valdez Fisheries Development Association in calculation.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Change Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan to exclude Gulkana Hatchery production in calculation.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Open certain waters of College Fjord to purse seine fishery before July 21.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Reestablish historic purse seine gear access to Coghill Lake sockeye salmon in Coghill River terminal area.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15 Establish standards to alleviate gear conflicts in Esther Subdistrict during the commercial pink salmon fishery.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Establish alternating purse seine and drift gillnet fishing periods in certain areas to alleviate gear conflicts in Esther Subdistrict during the commercial pink salmon fishery.</b>	





**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8, 2014**  
**Alaska Board of Fisheries**

**Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

BOG or BOF	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	# Support	# Oppose	Comments/Discussion
No Action			
BOF	17		Allow use of monofilament mesh in Prince William Sound drift gillnet fishery.
No Action			
BOF	18		Change drift gillnet gear specifications in the Copper River District.
No Action			
BOF	19		Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.
Oppose	0	11	Proposals 19, 20, and 21 would allow use of spotter planes by purse seine fishery. One member was concerned that if this were adopted that the many recreational aviators in PWS would be mistaken for fish spotters and be reported by some fishermen as such to the authorities, requiring that these authorities investigate these incidences for authenticity and subject these planes to unnecessary searches and questions, all because of the perception of fish spotting outside of the times, areas, or other rules created for this portion of the industry. According to another member this is an allocative issue that would increase the efficiency of purse seiners and therefore reduce harvests by other user groups. It would also likely reduce harvests of any seiners who did not employ a spotter pilot / plane. Proposal 19 failed 0-11-0.
BOF	20		Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.
Oppose	0	11	See comments for Proposal 19. Proposal 20 Failed 0-11-0.
BOF	21		Allow use of spotter planes in Prince William Sound salmon purse seine fisheries.
Oppose	0	11	See Comments for Proposal 19. Proposal 21 Failed 0-11-0
BOF	22		Identify certain landmarks in description of the Wally Noerenberg Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area using latitude and longitude coordinates.
No Action			



**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8, 2014**  
**Alaska Board of Fisheries**

**Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

BOG or BOF	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	# Support	# Oppose	Comments/Discussion
BOF	23		Close Prince William Sound management area to commercial lingcod harvest when inside and outside district guideline harvest levels are achieved, including lingcod caught as bycatch and directed harvest.
No Action			
BOF	24		Clarify that lingcod may only be retained from July 1 through December 31.
No Action			
BOF	25		Change Prince William Sound Inside District sablefish season opening and closing date for pot gear.
No Action			
BOF	26		Establish a lower trip limit in Prince William Sound walleye pollock pelagic trawl fishery and disallow tendering during the fishery.
No Action			
BOF	27		Establish directed commercial purse seine and jig pollock fisheries in Prince William Sound.
No Action			
BOF	28		Change the amount of rockfish that may be retained as bycatch during Pacific cod and walleye pollock fisheries.
No Action			
BOF	29		Require retention of all rockfish in the sablefish fishery on gear sets below 150 fathoms, remove rockfish bycatch limits and requirements, such that proceeds from rockfish bycatch are not surrendered to the state.
No Action			
BOF	30		Eliminate closure of Pacific cod pot season at 90 percent of guideline harvest level and combine pot and jig allocations, provide a step up/step down allocation depending on achievement of guideline harvest level.
No Action			





**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8, 2014****Alaska Board of Fisheries****Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

<b>BOG or BOF</b>	<b>Proposal #</b>	<b>Proposal Description</b>	
<b>Supports or Opposes?</b>	<b># Support</b>	<b># Oppose</b>	<b>Comments/Discussion</b>
<b>BOF</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Change Pacific cod allocation to provide 10 percent for jig gear until June 10, after which it will then be available to pot gear, and designate the state-waters jig fishery as nonexclusive.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>Correct coordinates within the described closed waters section for groundfish at Zaikof Point.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33 Establish a biological escapement goal of 28,000 king salmon for the Copper River drainage.</b>	
Oppose	0	8	Proposal 33 seeks to establish a Copper River king salmon escapement goal of 28,000 fish. Currently the assessment of the goal occurs after the season. During some years including 2014 the total number of estimated king salmon entering the river has been less than 24,000 fish. There have been restrictions to the sport and personal use fisheries in the Gulkana and Klutina Rivers for the past 5 years according to ADF&G. According to ADF&G the driving factor for reduced king salmon production in recent years is ocean survival. According to ADF&G king salmon numbers in the Gulkana have declined since 1996. There was a concern mentioned that because of failure to provide full season sport and personal use fisheries without restrictions the current goal level may not be adequate. A higher goal, however, would likely result in less fishing opportunity for all users possibly even reduced opportunity for subsistence users. If a change is made to the goal it would likely need to be made by the Board of Fisheries or an OEG rather than a SEG or BEG which is set by ADF&G. According to ADF&G using an escapement goal to address conservation issues is counter productive and the better approach would likely be to ask for a specific allocation for specific user(s). Motion failed 0-8-3
<b>BOF</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>Amend the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan to provide additional management measures for king salmon in the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery.</b>	



**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8, 2014**

**Alaska Board of Fisheries**

**Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

<b>BOG or BOF</b>	<b>Proposal #</b>	<b>Proposal Description</b>	
<b>Supports or Opposes?</b>	<b># Support</b>	<b># Oppose</b>	<b>Comments/Discussion</b>
Support	11	0	Proposal 34 would give ADF&G authority to adjust subsistence king salmon harvests in times of shortage. Such a regulation would require fish wheel users to closely attend wheels. Dan Montgomery asked what rate of mortality would occur in a fish wheel fishery. ADF&G answer that in some fisheries king salmon may survive in a live box for up to 6 hours. Another option would be to have a live box fish wheel even though there is a cost associated with a live box. Bill Folsom mentioned that his group did not catch one king salmon while fishing the wheel this season but said that sometimes it would be a problem. There is a great disparity even amongst the subsistence dip net and wheel users limits. Motion passed unanimously 11-0-0.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Prohibit the use of monofilament mesh in dip net bag webbing in subsistence and personal use fisheries.</b>	
Oppose	0	11	Proposal 35 would adjust the type of net allowed in the subsistence and personal use fisheries. ADF&G statement that monofilament or regular nets did not seem to affect king salmon survival but perhaps net depth does. Motion opposed 0-11-0.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>In subsistence and personal use fisheries, prohibit removing a king salmon from the water if it is to be released.</b>	
Oppose	0	11	Proposal 36 Would not allow removal of a king salmon from the water in a personal use or subsistence fishery if it was to be released. Wheels remove fish from the water all the time. According to ADF&G there is difficulty identifying king salmon in the glacial water in this fishery and mortality may not be affected much if a king salmon was removed from the water and immediately put back. AC members also mentioned difficulty with this potential regulation. Motion opposed 0-11-0.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>Require a department operated check station to monitor subsistence and personal use harvest and permit compliance in the Chitina and Glennallen subdistricts.</b>	
Oppose	0	11	Motion opposed 0-11-0.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>Change the opening date for the Chitina Subdistrict personal use salmon fishery to open as early as June 1, but not later than June 11.</b>	





**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8, 2014**  
**Alaska Board of Fisheries**

**Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

BOG or BOF	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	# Support	# Oppose	Comments/Discussion
Oppose	2	6	Proposal 38 would change the opening date of the Chitina personal use fishery to start on June 1 rather than June 7. The current regulation was enacted to put more fish upriver for subsistence users. Allowing more early fishing for personal use and or commercial fisheries would reduce upriver subsistence harvests and upriver escapements. Member was opposed because of current low king salmon numbers. Motion failed 2-6-3.
BOF	39	<b>Change the Chitina Subdistrict personal use annual limit to be based on household size.</b>	
Support	9	1	Proposal 39 would change the Chitina personal use limit to allow harvest of more salmon at one time rather than having to wait for additional days to harvest more fish. Increased harvests could decrease fishing time. Motion passed 9-1-1.
BOF	40	<b>Require charter operators that transport personal use fishermen keep a daily logbook.</b>	
No Action			
BOF	41	<b>Repeal reduction of the Chitina Subdistrict personal use allocation if the commercial salmon fishery is closed for 13 or more consecutive days.</b>	
No Action			
BOF	42	<b>Change the maximum harvest level for the Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery to 100,000 salmon.</b>	
Oppose	0	11	Proposal 42 would reduce the harvest level allowed of Chitina personal use salmon. Motion opposed 0-11-0.
BOF	43	<b>Establish an allocation of 3,000 king salmon to the Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery.</b>	
Support	6	0	Proposal 43 Establish an allocation of 3,000 king salmon to the Chitina personal use fishery. Personal use fishery should be allowed share in some harvest level of king salmon. Motion passed 6-0-5.
BOF	44	<b>Prohibit commercial salmon fishing until a salmon is recorded at the Copper River sonar.</b>	
No Action			
BOF	45	<b>Repeal mandatory inside-waters closure in Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.</b>	





**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8, 2014**

**Alaska Board of Fisheries**

**Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

<b>BOG or BOF</b>	<b>Proposal #</b>	<b>Proposal Description</b>	
<b>Supports or Opposes?</b>	<b># Support</b>	<b># Oppose</b>	<b>Comments/Discussion</b>
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>Restrict retention of commercially caught king salmon for a person's own use to not exceed the king salmon sport bag limit in area caught.</b>	
Support	8	2	Proposal 46 would restrict retention of commercially caught king salmon for personal use to the sport caught limit. Motion passed 8 - 2- 1.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>Allows use of dip nets for commercial salmon fishing during emergency order closures of the commercial drift gillnet fishery.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>Mark district boundaries.</b>	
No Action			
<b>BOF</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>Change the sport fishing season opening date for king salmon on the Klutina River from July 1 to June 1.</b>	
Oppose	1	5	Proposal 49 would extend sport fishing on the Klutina to allow fishing in June and retain fishing in August. One member felt that commercial ** Motion failed 1 -5 -5.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Prohibit use of barbed hooks, multiple hooks, and bait when fishing for king salmon in the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Area.</b>	
Oppose	0	11	Proposal 50 would prohibit use of barbed hooks, multiple hooks and bait for king salmon. Motion opposed 0-11-0.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>Prohibit use of barbed and multiple hooks for king salmon once an angler has taken a bag limit or annual limit of king salmon.</b>	
Oppose	2	7	Proposal 51 would prohibit use of barbed hooks after a king salmon has been harvested. One member suggested she felt that once the daily limit of king salmon or annual limit had been harvested a person should be done fishing for the remainder of the day/season given the current low abundance of Chinook Salmon. Another spoke in favor of the same thing but was opposed to taking away the use of barbed hooks. Others felt that not allowing barbed hooks for the remainder of the season was far to drastic. Motion opposed 2-7-2.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>Prohibit use of barbed and multiple hooks with or without bait if the sport fishery is restricted to catch-and-release.</b>	
No Action			



**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3-8,  
2014  
Alaska Board of Fisheries**

**Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

BOG or BOF	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	# Support	# Oppose	Comments/Discussion
BOF	53		Clarify that a single-hook artificial lure is an artificial lure with one single-hook or one fly.
No Action			
BOF	54		Increase the Arctic grayling bag and possession limit in the Gulkana River drainage.
No Action			
BOF	55		Amend special provisions for rainbow trout in the Tebay River drainage.
No Action			
BOF	56		Update the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Area stocked waters regulation.
No Action			
BOF	57		Amend methods and means for burbot in a portion of the Copper River drainage to reference statewide regulations.
No Action			

Old Business:

Is any AC member interested in attending the Board of Fisheries meeting December 3rd - 8. Jehnifer / Sherry Wright need to know by tomorrow.

Election meeting is November 19 at Wasilla High School. 7 - 9 p.m.

Israel mentioned that Chris at Sportsman's Warehouse was willing to allow the Advisory Committee an opportunity to talk to the public at the store about the AC election and process. Israel mentioned he would be willing to help someone else, but most nights did not have the time or energy himself.

Member Comments:

Bill Folsom mentioned that during the meeting some committee members were speaking up before being called on and that members should raise hands and be recognized before speaking -- especially during our election meeting.

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes Recorded By: Andy Couch  
Minutes Approved By:





## **Paxson Advisory Committee**

**11-7-2014**

### **Meiers Lake Roadhouse**

I. Call to Order: 6:45pm by John Schandelmeier

II. Roll Call:  
John Schandelmeier, Advisory Chair  
Greg Swope, Secretary  
Gary Alcott, Member  
Lee Harper, Member  
Mark Schlenker, Member  
Members Absent:  
Alan Echols; (excused)

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 4  
List of User Groups Present: N/A

III. Approval of Agenda:

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:  
From meeting date....



V. Fish and Game Staff Present:  
Frank Robbins, ADF&G Glennallen  
Scott Maclean, ADF&G Glennallen

VI. Guests Present:  
Dave Wilson, Meiers Lake  
Andrea Wilson, Meiers Lake  
Donna Russell-Swope, Paxson

VII. New Business:  
Board agreed to only comment on Proposals with  
direct impact on Game Unit 13 and surrounding  
areas.

**ADF&G Proposal to change Board of Game from  
2 year cycle to 3 year cycle like Board Of  
Fisheries.**

All Members Opposed this Change.

Greg: Be as responsive as possible. Keep it 2  
years

Mark: 3 year BOF cycles are okay. Fisheries are





more stable than Game. 2 Years makes sense for Game, especially given changing environmental conditions.

John: We need to be very responsive to changing weather and hunt pressure. Keep shorter cycle

Lee: Keep it 2 years

### **Federal National Park Service Proposals**

Comments on the following two issues to be sent to [Barbara\\_cellarius@nps.gov](mailto:Barbara_cellarius@nps.gov)

Regulation – NPS proposal on prohibiting the taking wolf when they are not useable, black bears with artificial lights at dens and bear baiting are all supported by this Advisory Committee. We also support the proposal prohibiting the use of drones for any purpose in National Parks and Preserves.

The support for these proposals was 4 in favor with one member abstaining.

The Paxson Fish and Game Advisory Committee strongly opposes the recent Federal opening of portions of the Paxson Closed Area to subsistence hunting. This closed area was set aside fifty years ago as a viewing area for a few big game animals. It is also an area that the Nelchina caribou herd uses



regularly as a migration path during their October migration. Hunting in this narrow constricted corridor has the potential to seriously change the patterns of this very vulnerable, important herd. He would like to petition the Federal Subsistence Council to reinstate the hunting prohibition in this locally important area.

We would also like to remark that we believe the Federally unencumbered lands within the Clearwater Controlled Use area need to retain their non-motorized hunting status.

The opening of the Paxson Closed Area and Clearwater Creek Closed Areas to Federal Subsistence Hunting.

Opposed by All Members.

Garry: Hunting has been banned for a number of years. No need to change. Dangerous due to number of animals and proximity to highway.

Greg: Paxson Closed Area is a Funnel for Game animals. Best to leave it closed.

## **Review Proposals – 2014/2015 Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposal Book**

### **Proposals 33 – 43 (Chitina Dip Net Proposals)**

John: What we have is working. Not sure about Micro-managing. Let the experts handle the escapement. Sockeye returns are great. Can't control Chinook survival rate once out in Ocean. There will always be user groups that want a few more fish.

Greg: Fisheries need to look at "Big picture."

Lee: What we have is working; leave it alone.

### **Proposal 53:**

Lee: Supports proposal. Not enough fish are being caught in Summit Lake

John: Supports proposal for Summit Lake only. Believes that we can try it for 3 years. Opposed to changing on Paxson Lake due to the potential for higher fishing pressure and



inaccurate reporting. (Paxson Lake has a campground and fairly high tourism pressure; these anglers don't have accurate reporting as they are here for a day and gone.

Greg: Opposed. Believes that actual fish catch levels are not being accurately reported.

Garry: Opposed. Already enough fishing pressure on Paxson Lake.

Mark: Abstain

**Proposal 54:** All members oppose: 5 grayling or 10 per day is not a subsistence issue.

Greg: Hard to enforce

John: Leave regulation alone. If you need more fish, one extra salmon equals 5 grayling.

Cottonwood gGrove, Haggard and Coleman Creeks cannot take the extra spring pressure.

**Proposal 56:** Supported by all members.

All members were in support of ADF&G making these decisions based on best available information.



## **Review Proposals – 2014/2015 Alaska Board of Game Proposal Book**

### **Proposal 58:**

All in Support. This is our proposal; we believe it very important for the overall health of the local eco-system.

### **Proposal 59:**

All in Support. This is also very pertinent. The fall moose count in this area bears out what we, as a Committee, have been saying for the past 3 seasons.

### **Proposal 60:**

Unanimously opposed. We are opposed to cow moose hunts that have the objective of showcasing what a great job predator control has been doing. (at the expense of all other populations)

Mark: Opposed to micro managing game animal



populations.

John: Cow Hunts are a result of IM Policies. Would not be necessary without the over-aggressive IM

Greg: Keep regulations simple. Don't add layers of additional hunts to manage moose and caribou #s

Proposal 61: Comments—this has been okay on the past. Current special winter hunt is taking it's place?

No Opinion

Proposal 62: Drawing permit proposal for caribou.

Greg, Mark, Gary and Lee Are opposed to a new class of hunter in Game Unit 13. Already

Enough hunting pressure

John: In favor. Why exclude non-resident hunters? Good for local businesses and the caribou population is meeting or exceeding subsistence requirements.

Proposal 63:



## No Opinion

Proposal 64 and 86: proposal to divide the Nelchina caribou hunt;

Opposed by all unanimously.

John and Mark: Already confusing. Hard to manage. Better to keep it all one hunt; we never know where the caribou will be. They may be largely inaccessible during a given portion of the season.

Garry, Lee and Greg: Too complicated. Keep it the way it is.

Proposals 65 – 83, 85:

Opposed by All

John and Mark: Community Subsistence Hunts are based on allocation. They set up two tiers of hunters based largely on artificial communities. We are opposed to all community hunts.

Greg: No science behind Community hunts. Seems that it is all local politics

Proposal 84:

Supported with the following Modification: Establish

a limit at the discretion of ADF&G. We support this only if only if there is no Community Hunt or Winter moose hunt in Unit 13.

Garry: Keep hunts simple. No Community Hunts.

Greg: Let ADF&G determine hunt limits

Mark: Get rid of all these different hunts. Make management simpler and more effective.

Proposal 87: proposal requiring caribou hunters to only hunt moose in Unit 13.

Supported by all Board Members; This has never been a good proposal. It puts unnecessary and artificially high hunt pressure on Unit 13 moose. It degrades hunt quality within the area.

Proposal 88: Changing subsistence determination.

Opposed by all Board Members.

All members: Another micro-management proposal that does not have the evidence or accurate data available to be successful or fair.

Proposal 89: Tier II proposal.





Opposed by all Board Members.

All members: There are presently no Tier II hunts within Unit 13. Another micro-management proposal

Proposal 90 and 91: Goat Permits

Opposed by all Board Members

John: The hunt is already over subscribed

Mark and Greg: The current drawing permit system is working.

Proposal 93 and 94: Brown Bear baiting

Opposed by all Board Members. Bait Stations tend to be located near roads and close to populations. This proposal habituates

bears to cabins and people. There is already an occasional issue with Brown bears and cabin damage along Paxson Lake. Bait stations in the area have potential to make things much worse.

Proposal 95: Ptarmigan proposal.

Supported by all Board members; this is our proposal. While somewhat complicated, it addresses all of the current ptarmigan issues. Our main concern is

protecting the populations along the Denali Highway while still allowing sustainable harvest. The August 20 opening date is absolutely imperative for protecting young birds in this area that are not large enough to eat. This area has a much later nesting window than areas farther south and at lower elevations. Many of the chicks are still peeping on the 10<sup>th</sup> of August!

## **Review Proposals – 2014/2015 Supplemental Document Alaska Board of Game**

Proposal 198: Modifying the drawing cow moose hunt

Opposed by all Board Members

Lee, Garry and Greg: Too many variables

Mark: Results in taking calves. (cows are pregnant-you are taking 2 moose every time you shoot a winter cow.)

John: Micromanaging, however, the proposal does address the population objectives that we support. (comment: pregnant cows usually survive the winter. Calves already born have a pretty low survival rate; maybe



we should not shoot the ones that are making it....)

Proposal 199: IM wolf management

All Board Members would support if the wolf population objective is changed to 200—spring count.

Proposal 200: Moose population objectives for Unit 13

All Board members support with following modification: Change the moose population objective in Subunit 13B to 4000 – 5000. Copper Basin Committee did not address the population objective in this sub-unit.

John and Mark: This change is based on local knowledge of current and ongoing browse and potential winter conditions. See our proposal #59.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 pm.





## CR/PWS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTIONS/SUMMARY BOARD OF FISH PROPOSALS 2014

PROPOSAL	P/F/NA	YEA	NEA	ABSTAIN	DISCUSSION
1	P	8	0	0	WOULD PROVIDE MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE WORKING PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY TO HARVEST SALMON AND FOR THE COMMERCIAL FISHERY OUTSIDE OF COMMERCIAL OPENINGS. CONCERN WITH HONDRING INSIDE CLOSURES IF IN EFFECT THERE IS CONCERN: DOES THIS FIXED OPENER ACTUALLY REDUCE OVERALL SUBSISTENCE TIME CURRENTLY AVAILABLE?
2	N/A				ACTION DUE TO #1
3	N/A				ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS ONLY LEGAL LIMIT OF 50 FATHOMS ALLOWED ON BOARD MUST BE SHACKLED WITH ONE PERMIT
4	F	0	8	0	PROPOSAL DOES NOT ADDRESS HATCHERY STOCKS OF CHINOOK IE CHENEGA
5	P	8	0	0	THE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS PWSAC EFFORTS TO PROTECT EQUIPMENT AND HEALTH OF BROOD STOCK
6	P	8	0	0	COMMITTEE PROPOSAL MANY MEMBERS HAVE WITNESSED THE INCREASED MORTALITY FROM BAIT IN THESE DRAINAGES BAIT AND CATCH AND RELEASE DOESN'T WORK
7	P	8	0	0	ROAD WASHED OUT HARVEST VERY LOW
8	P	7	0	1	SPORT HARVEST 200,000 LBS WOULD REDUCE HARVEST BY 20%
9	F	0	8	0	JIGGING AND TROLLING DO NOT OCCUR AT THE SAME TIME
17	F	4	4	0	INCREASED EFFICIENCY COULD DISRUPT DATA FROM ADF&G'S CPUE INDEX. PRICE HAS INCREASED ON MONO WEB SUBSTANTIALLY
18	F	0	8	0	GEAR SPECIFICATIONS SHOULD NOT BE SET BY INTERIEOR AC. KING HARVEST REGULATED BY TIME AND AREA ALREADY
19	N/A				THERE IS CONTROVERSERY OVER ENFORCEMENT'S INTERPERTATIONS OF CURRENT REGULATIONS
20	N/A				REGARD OPEN AIR SPACE
21	N/A				" " " " " "
22	P	8	0	0	THE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS CLEAR PRECISE LINES FOR FISHING DISTRICT BOUNDRIES
23	F	0	8	0	HARVEST NUMBERS INDICATE NO PROBLEMS
24	P	8	0	0	CLARIFICATIONS OF REGULATIONS
25	P	8	0	0	PROPOSER HAS MODIFIED PROPOSAL TO ONLY CHANGE CLOSING DATE TO



26	F	0	8	0	ADF&G HAS TOOLS AVAILABLE NUMBER OF HOURS IS SET BY NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS EACH OPENER
27	P	7	0	1	SMALL VESSEL OPPORTUNITY GOOD FOR COMMUNITY THE MINORITY NOT CLEAR WHAT PROPOSAL WANTED
28	P	8	0	0	CLEARLY DEFINES ROCKFISH BYCATCH
29	F	0	8	0	COMMITTEE DOES NOT SUPPORT INCREASED ROCKFISH BYCATCH
30	P	8	0	0	MAKES SENSE
31	N/A	0	0	8	OPPORTUNITY EXISTS
32	P	8	0	0	HOUSEKEEPING CLARIFICATION
33	F	0	8	0	ALREADY S.E.G. IN PLACE. ARRIVED AT WITH BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION
34	P	8	0	0	COMMITTEE SUPPORTS ADF&G DESIRE FOR ADDITIONAL TOOLS FOR KING SALMON MANAGEMENT
35	N/A				AMBIGUOUS GILLNET NOT A GOOD IDEA IN DIP NETS WHERE YOU ARE RELEASING KINGS
36	P	7	1	0	KING SALMON CONSERVATION IS SUPPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE INCREASED SURVIVAL IS GOOD FOR USER GROUPS
37	P	8	0	0	COMMITTEE FEELS ACCOUNTABILITY IS A GOOD IDEA. IT WOULD HELP THE AVERAGE PERSON WITH INFORMATION
38	F	0	8	0	OPENING DATE WAS COMPROMISED TO ALLOW EARLY FISH FOR SUBSISTANCE COMBINED WITH INSIDE CLOSERS IN COMMERCIAL FISHERY
39	F	0	8	0	WOULD LEAD TO POTENTIAL INCREASED HARVEST AND IS BEING MET UNDER CURRENT REGULATIONS
40	N/A				INFORMATION ON HARVEST COMING FROM CURRENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
41	F	0	8	0	SHARING CONSERVATION BURDEN IS IMPORTANT IN TIMES OF SMALLER RUNS
42	N/A				COMMITTEE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED A 120,000 HARVEST LEVEL AT CURRENT AVERAGE HARVEST IN THIS FULLY ALLOCATED FISHERY
43	F	0	8	0	WOULD HAVE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF MORE SOCKEYE IN THE RIVER AND ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
44	F	0	8	0	THIS ISSUE HAS COME UP BEFORE IN ACR YEAR 2000. ADF&G HAS TOOLS FOR MANAGEMENT. THE AC



					SUPPORTS FLEXIBILITY FOR MANAGEMENT TO DO THIS JOB. EVERY YEAR IS DIFFERENT
45	P	8	0	0	THE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS MANAGEMENT FLEXIBILITY. THE MANAGERS HAVE EXCEEDED THE NUMBER OF MANDATORY CLOSERS SIGNIFICANTLY
46	F	0	8	0	A DEAD KING IS A DEAD KING. THEY WILL BE SOLD IF NOT TAKEN HOME. THIS COULD HAVE UNINTENTIONAL CONSEQUENCES OF INCREASED SUBSISTENSE HARVEST
47	F	0	8	0	THIS WAS ALREADY CONSIDERED AS STATEWIDE PROPOSAL WOULD ALTER CPUE DATA FOR ADF&G FLEET COULD NOT HARVEST SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF SOCKEYE
48	P	7	1	0	NO GPS ON SUBSISTENSE VESSELS IDEALY GO BACK TO VISUAL MARKERS. VERY FEW LANDMARKERS IN THE TIMES OF LOW VISIABILITY. FEW VESSELS HAVE GPS VISABLE FROM DECK.
49	F	0	8	0	UPRIVER SPORT SEASONS HAVE EVOLVED OVER TIME TO PROTECT THE STOCKS INCREASED OPPORTUNITY WOULD LEAD TO INCREASED HARVEST
50	P	8	0	0	CATCH AND RELEASE MORTALITY ON KINGS IS A CONCERN WE SUPPORT AHTNA IN EFFORTS TO REDUCE
51	N/A				SEE COMMITTEE ACTION ON 50
52	N/A				SEE COMMITTEE ACTION ON 50
53	P	8	0	0	CLAIRFICATION OF REGULATIONS BY ADF&G
54	F	1	7	0	AGAINST ARCTIC GRAYLING MANAGEMENT PLAN MINORITY. NOT OUR BUSINESS
55	P	8	0	0	CLARITY AND CONSISTENCY IN REGULATIONS
56	P	8	0	0	HOUSEKEEPING BY ADF&G
57	N/A				



Draft Draft MINUTES Draft Draft  
Seward F&G Advisory Committee  
October 23, 2014  
Seward City Council Chambers

A. Call to order

Present – McCracken, White, Hubbard, Hatch, Hanneman, Casey, Clemens,  
Debuc  
Excused – Campbell (?), Herbert, Flood  
Absent – Hall, Foldager  
Resigned – Collman

B. Roll call/approval of agenda

Members present introduced themselves  
Motion to adopt agenda, move WC, second Diane, approved

C. Approval of previous meeting minutes

Motion to adopt Diane, WC second  
No comments  
Approved

D. Introduction of committee members/agency member/citizens

Members present introduced themselves, followed by introduction of agency  
members and citizens – see sign in sheet

E. Citizens comments on F&G proposals for this board cycle

Committee agreed to hear comments from citizens on proposals as they were  
addressed

F. Old Biz

- a. Kid's Fishing Day – 2014 had a record number of kids fishing. WC would like to see our committee continue with the event in the future. Robin and Pam Collman were instrumental in making the day's success. WC will talk with Robin regarding his suggestions for a successful day and will report back next meeting.
- b. Due to the high numbers of silvers, McCracken was able to work with Jay Baumer from F&G to change the limit of fish from 2 -6 fish in the lagoon/Sheffield Creek area. There were a lot of kids fishing throughout the season. Nate Smith commented that approx. 100 kids fished the area.

G. New Biz

a. Fish proposals

A Seward rep is needed for the Dec meeting, Diane cannot go

PROPOSAL 1, 2, & 3. No action was taken on these three subsistence proposals.





4 Motion to adopt Dubuc, second Hatch –tabled this proposal till the November meeting to allow the author time to come up an area where the proposal would apply.

**PROPOSAL 4-5 ACC 55.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag possession, and size limits, and methods for the Prince William Sound Area. Prohibit the release of king salmon in Prince William Sound as follows. No catch and release of king salmon, first two caught must be kept.** Motion to adopt by Dubuc, seconded by Hatch. A lengthily discussion ensued concerning this proposal as it was put forth by the Seward Charter Boat Association and the drafter of the proposal was present to defend it. The author stated that there is a problem in the recreational/ charter fishery for king salmon which has developed at Montague Is. in the PWS regulatory area. The majority of the problem comes from the unguided angler fleet. It has been observed that anglers are netting king salmon, bringing them onboard, taking photos and releasing them back into the water. The author is concerned about wanton waste of kings with mortality being high for fish released in this manner. The problem lies with weekend warriors as the charter fleet is self policing and their goal is to get their fish and go home. There was discussion to amend with catch and release in the water but this went nowhere. Additional discussion concerned single hook only. There was no consensus on that issue.

Dubuc stated that the concept of the first two fish caught being retained was proposed at an earlier meeting concerning pelagic rockfish in LCI. A concern brought up at the Board level by enforcement was that this would be difficult to enforce. Dubuc stated that the current size restrictions for commercial trollers in SE is 28" with fish under that size released. Most fish in this fishery are well below this size.

Dept. comments: The Dept was concerned that as written, there would be no catch and release allowed. An angler would, if this proposal was adopted, be forced to retain two king salmon even they were fishing for another species, therefore reducing opportunity for anglers. The Dept would rather see good practice fishing through education instead of forced retention. With data available to the Dept., there is an 8 to 10% mortality of king salmon released in salt water and an additional 2400 kings would be harvested through mandatory retention if this proposal was adopted.

Dubuc made a motion to amend in which this proposal would include specific geographic boundaries where this practice is an issue and not apply to the entire PWS area.

T



8 Motion to adopt Diane, second Clemons, 7 yes 0 no 1 abstain, White

Motion to amend Diane, second Clemons, 6 yes 0 no 2 abstain, White, WC

**PROPOSAL 8-5 ACC 55.022. Reduce bag and possession limits for lingcod in PWS from 2 per day, 4 in possession to one per day, two in possession.** This proposal was submitted by the Seward Charter Boat Association. Motion to adopt by Dubuc, seconded by Clemens. The discussion centered around the increased pressure on the lingcod resource as a result of the new restrictions on the guided halibut fishery. Present bag and possession limits in the LCI are one ling per day with one in possession. The drafters of the proposal under questioning from the AC stated that this proposal would bring the two regulatory areas closer together regarding bag and possession limits. When asked about the possession limit of two as opposed to one as is stature in LCI, the authors stated it was written that way to accommodate overnight charters.

Dept. comments: There are currently no population estimates for lingcod in PWS. The Dept thinks this proposal would reduce ling harvest by 20% if adopted. Age comparison data collected from the State Wide Harvest Survey suggests there is weak recruitment PWS lingcod populations. The Dept would support lingcod conservation measures.

Dubuc made an amendment to support this proposal if the language was changed to mirror the bag and possession limits of LCI, one per day, one in possession. The amend carried and the proposal was supported as amended 7 voting to support, 0 opposed and one abstention. The abstaining vote did so because he was concerned that Resurrection Bay is being used as incubation factory for lingcod and retention of ling in Resurrection Bay is currently prohibited.

23 Motion to adopt Diane, second Clemons , 7 yes 0 no 1 abstain, White

**PROPOSAL 23-5ACC 28.210-Close the PWS Management Area to commercial lingcod harvest when the inside and outside district GLHs are achieved, including lingcod caught as bycatch.** Motion to adopt by Dubuc, seconded by Clemens. The PWS current GHL is set at 90% of the commercial harvest over a time series. There are currently no population estimates or age comparison data available for PWS lingcod. The Federal fishery shuts down by-catch when the GHL is reached. The Seward AC feels it is better to err on the side of conservation and not allow by-catch after the GHL is reached. This would also align the State fishery more closely with the Federal fishery. The Seward AC supported this proposal 7 in favor, 0 opposed with one abstention. The abstaining vote did so for the same reasons he abstained from voting on Prop. 8





24 Motion to adopt Hatch, second Hubbard, 7 yes 0 no 1 abstain, White  
**PROPOSAL 24-5 ACC 28.10- This proposal would clarify that lingcod may only be retained from July 1 through December 31, unless closed earlier by EO.** Motion to adopt by Hatch, seconded by Hubbard. This proposal was seen as a housekeeping proposal being put forth by the Dept. and was supported by the Seward AC 7 in favor, 1 abstained. The abstaining vote did so for the same reasons he abstained from voting on the other lingcod proposals we discussed.

40 Motion to adopt Diane, second Hubbard, 0 yes, 5 oppose, 3 abstain, White, WC,

**PROPOSAL 40-5 ACC 77.XXX. New Section. Require charter operators that transport personal use fisherman keep a daily logbook.** Motion to adopt by Dubuc, seconded by Hubbard. The Seward AC feels there is already a tool in the toolbox for gathering this data being the SWHS. The increase burden of additional paperwork would not justify the resulting data. The Seward AC voted to oppose this proposal 0 in favor, 5 opposed, 3 abstained.

The suite of proposals concerning allocation plan changes between the gillnet and seine fisheries were deferred to the November meeting to allow people from those gear groups to be present and speak to those issues.

H. Citizens comments on F&G issues – comments taken during proposal discussions

I. Response to citizens comments by AC members

WC – encouraged F&G to have a higher priority for lingcod studies.

F&G – they are working on developing an index

Diane – questions the statewide harvest survey data

White – data may be incorrect, folks don't always know what kind of fish they catch

McCracken – Question F&G about a new boat for rockfish studies

F&G – there are current yellow eye studies, it is ok to catch and release yellow eyes after catching limit, looking for NOAA by-catch study funding.

White – Sheffler Creek – too many fish, Lowell Creek has not been planted for years, has talked with F&G regarding this

Hatch – received a call from Homer regarding a change request for 58' limit on seiners, will be on the March meeting, and would like the Seward AC to review it at next meeting.

White – Park Service regulation from Sherry. Feds may control more areas subsistence folks may be affected.



J. Schedule for next meeting

Next meeting – November 14th

Address other fish proposals to meet 11/21 deadline and will go over game proposals

Jim Selinger will be reporting at next meeting

K. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, Diane, white second





# SEWARD FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 23, 2014

## FISHING PROPOSAL MINUTES

The Seward Fish and Game Advisory Committee met on Thursday, October 23 to discuss proposals being put forth for consideration at the BOF Prince William Sound & Upper Copper/Susitna Finfish meeting to be held in Cordova in December.

The following is a list of the proposals we discussed:

**PROPOSAL 1, 2, & 3. No action was taken on these three subsistence proposals.**

**PROPOSAL 4-5 ACC 55.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag possession, and size limits, and methods for the Prince William Sound Area. Prohibit the release of king salmon in Prince William Sound as follows. No catch and release of king salmon, first two caught must be kept.**

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## **DRAFT**

### **Seward Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2014 City of Seward Council Chambers**

Meeting began at 7:20 pm

Members Present: Jim McCracken, Jeanette Hanneman, Jim Herbert, Bob White, W.C. Casey, Mark Clemens

Members Absent: Diane Dubuc, Jim Hubbard, Matt Hall, Ezra Campbell, Trent Foldager, John Flood

A quorum was not present so no official business could be transacted. Chairman McCracken used the opportunity to talk with staff and the public.

Agency Staff Present: Laura Phillips NPS, Jeff Selinger F&G, Scott Sands AWT, Karin Sturdy City of Seward

Public: Allen McCarty, Nathan Smith, Tom Prochazka,

At this point no one will represent us at the Fish Board meeting in Cordova in early December 2014.

Jeff Selinger gave a report on wildlife issues on the Kenai Peninsula. The on going moose study is waiting for snow to allow full work up of the 50 target animals. Area 15C appears to have physically healthy populations while 15A seems nutritionally stressed. There is an interesting possibility that the lack of selenium may figure into the stress. The study is providing good information and baseline data.

The Funny River burn has the promise to help the moose population. There is a plan to outfit 25 moose with GPS collars in this area as part of moose studies.

Preliminary harvest data was presented. 65 Brown bears were taken on the peninsula with 38 taken in Unit 7, primarily in the western part of the unit. A large number of big male bears were taken over bait. This may be due to the bears seeking early feed and large bear dominance. It is likely that there will not be as many large bears taken next year. The season is closed now but will potentially open in the new year. Jeff felt that the 70 bear cap might be reduced in the future. By contrast to brown bears, Jeff reported that more black bear females are taken over bait than males.

Caribou populations are not that healthy on the peninsula. Cooper Landing has a subsistence harvest that took 8 of 10 of the animals harvested. There may be limited wolf predation on them. Herds that seem to be doing well include the Fox River, Killey, and Lowland groups.

About 200 moose were harvested on the Kenai Peninsula this year. In terms of illegal harvest, the main issue seems to be hunters not understanding the regulations regarding





spikes and forks. There may be some guessing at 50 inch antlers and determination of brow tines. There was a discussion of the implications of antler traits/genetics and the association with bulls. Optimistically we may be getting back to 15C harvest objectives with antlerless harvests a possibility. Jeff feels there may be benefits to having a September 1 opening and/or have various starts across the peninsula.

There will be no lynx season this winter and not likely for another 6 or 7 years. The hare cycle is in a low and as witnessed by lynx seeking food near human dwellings. Also a new twist is the larger number of lynx taken by hunters in November and December compared to the winter trapping season. Last year the harvest was ~150 animals. An interesting fact was that hares and moose enjoy the same food sources and this might have had a negative effect on moose in 15C.

Because of a lack of snow, there was a low harvest of wolves [18 down from an average of 35-40]. Three wolves were taken in 15A as part of the predator control program which is likely to continue.

Due to the lack of a quorum no action was taken on any game proposals at this meeting.

Nathan Smith presented information requested at the last meeting. He has fine tuned the exclusion area around Cape Cleare. All AC members present endorsed attaching his comments to our AC comments for consideration by the BOF for their December meeting. This proposal was discussed extensively at our last meeting and the following further clarifies our position.

**Basically we endorse an exclusion zone from three miles off Hanning Bay [59° 59.00' N 147° 42.28' W] following a line generally 3 nm. off the beach around Cape Cleare to a point 3 nm. off Wooded Islands [59° 52.54' N 147° 20.24' W]. Inside this zone single barbless hooks would be required for catch and release fishing. Any King Salmon removed from the water in this area must be retained.**

**This information will be passed on to Sherry Wright. We request it be included in our comments already submitted regarding Proposal #4. We understand that regulations will be written to clarify the three mile boundary to enable proper enforcement.**

Laura Phillips [NPS] presented information concerning the salmon tagging study on the Resurrection River. The focus was on silver salmon with 180 seined near the Exit Glacier bridge and 90 being implanted with transmitters. Another 27 sockeyes and 2 kings were taken but not tagged. Currently 50 tags are still working. The antennas have been taken down for the winter but it is hoped over flights can take place in November and December. Currently there is lots of bear activity in the area.

According to her preliminary data, silver salmon seem to primarily breed in main stem of the river and not in the tributaries. Most seem to spawn above Marten Creek. Twenty otoliths have been sent to ADF&G for analysis. This is a one year project focusing on habitat and spawning locations. It is a key salmon spawning area.





There was a small discussion of the boundary of the national park and state land by White, McCracken and Phillips. The latter thought it was mid river, White felt it was on the west bank of the river.

Karin Sturdy was seeking input on the funding of salmon related projects by the city. White felt that habitat enhancement or restoration would help the wild runs which he felt were in the long run more valuable than hatchery based stocking. He is worried about the decrease in red salmon in the lagoon with the large number of returning silvers due to stocking. He suggested putting a weir in the "ditch" to allow targeted fishing on the silvers by youth and other harvesters to prevent them overwhelming the spawning streams.

Clemens generally agreed with White and spoke about wild stocks being stronger fish compared to hatchery fish. He spoke about the value of getting more rearing areas back. For example, trenching out areas around the dump would allow for more good habitat for first year coho. He estimates every silver caught locally has a \$110 value to the community. He advocates the state and city combine efforts in this area.

Casey said it is a balancing act between stocking and wild stocks. He felt it was not so important to create new as it was to resurrect lost habitat. It was an arduous process to maintain habitat for natural runs but it was very important. He and White talked about how better culverts are critical for summer habitat for first year coho.

Sturdy asked for opinions on a floating dock into the lagoon to enhance harvest of cohos. The city is interested in enhancing fishing opportunity. It could provide ADA access and opportunities for Seniors as well as the youth fisheries. McCracken worried about liability. White suggested a pontoon boat. Casey spoke about a recently acquired parcel on the west side of the lagoon and how it might figure into these plans. It was suggested that Karin make contact with Dan Bosch of F&G and Ginny Litchfield of the Kenai River Center.

Hanneman and Herbert attended a community meeting in Moose Pass to present information on the Grant Lake Hydro Project by HEA and its contractors. Over \$1M dollars has been spent on studies for the FERC license application. The studies indicate a favorable project from the environmental point of view. Local residents see little direct benefits and are worried about changes due to increase traffic in the Grant Lake area. White talked about employment and increased recreation opportunities.

The next scheduled Seward AC meeting will be December 11, 2014. Game proposals will be discussed. We hope too many folks will not be out of town so we can get a quorum. Please notify Chairman McCracken if you will be out of town.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.



WHITTIER FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2014

I. Call to Order: 1:04 PM

II.

III. Roll Call: Members Present: Milton Stevens, Brad Von Wichman, David Goldstein, Jon Van Hying, Steve Aberle, David Pinquoch, James Morris, Gordon Scott, Ric Vrsalovic.

Members Absent: Mike Durtschi, Charles Eldridge.

Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 5

Agencies Staff Present: Charles R. Taggart (A.W.T. Girdwood), Mike Thalhauser (DF&G Biology)  
via teleconference: Maria Wessel and Charlotte Westing (DF&G Cordova).

List of User Groups Present:

IV. Approval of Agenda:

V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date: 3-22-2014 and 11-30-2013

VI.

VII. Fish and Game Staff Present: Sherry Wright.

VIII. Guests Present:

IX. Old Business:

X. New Business:

**RECEIVED**  
**NOV 21 2014**  
**BOARDS**  
**ANCHORAGE**



Chairman Jon read the minutes of the last minutes 3-22-2014 and were approved by the members present. Sherry Wright read the minutes of 11-30-2013 which was not read last meeting. Minutes was also approval as read.

Proposals From the Alaska Board of Fisheries:

Proposal No. 29.- Jon Van Hyning put in the table this proposal. The proposal asked to remove the requirement to retain all rockfish caught in sablefish fishery on gear below 150 fathoms.

The reason is that there is an abundance of rockfish below the 150 fathoms and they prey on shrimp and displaced other fish like sablefish.

Jon said that 10 - 15 years ago there were not so many rockfish in Port Wells.

The DF&G established a total of 150,000 lbs. GHL for the entire PWS fisheries. Right now, the bycatch allowed is 20% of rockfish in the commercial sablefish harvest. In 2014 the bycatch was 23,000 lbs. and the overall was 154,000 lbs.. compared with the 149,000 lbs. in 2013.

This proposal means to split the sablefish fishery into 2 gear groups: a) above 150 fathoms with the existing percent allow of 20% and ...b) below the 150 fathoms with a bycatch greater than 20%.

Another subject put on the table is to increase the GHL to 300,000 lbs.

Both ideas create a lot of problem to introduced because it will affect other fisheries also.

After several discussions back and forward, the AC members could not agree on proposal No. 29 as written... Steve Aberle mentioned there is no consensus to agreed how to amended. Gordon Scott suggested that Jon Van Hyning ask the Board of Fisheries to review the GHL allocation. This suggestion was approval by D. Goldstein.

Proposal No. 5.- Steve Aberle put on the table proposal 5 written by PWS Aquaculture Corp.. James Morris second it....In the discussion it was mentioned that probably a lot of sport fishermen will not like this proposal. Anyway, the AC vote 8 in favor and 1 abstain.

Proposal No. 8.- James Morris put on the table this proposal for discussion. Mike T. ( Fish and Game personnel) recommended that we combine with proposal No. 23 as is similar. Steve A. second the motion. David P. was wondering if the Seward Charterboats Assoc. is trying to self regulate or is intending to regulate everybody else.

Passed with 8 members supported an 1 abstain.

Proposal No.23.- AC Whittier took "Not Action".

Proposal No. 4.- introduced by David Goldstein. It is regarding "prohibit to release King salmon in PWS". ..Second by Steve Aberle. The members representing the Charterboats would



not support this proposal because there is not enough information regarding the size of the King salmon; If the fish is over 16" it will be OK..

AC vote : 9 to oppose and 0 support.

Proposal No. 25.- Gordon move to adopt proposal No. 25... Ric second.

After a short discussion we couldn't find a good logical reason to open the sablefish season early for Pot gear and not do it for the rest type of gears.

AC Whittier vote : 9 opposed and 0 supported.

Black Bear in PWS.- David Pinquoch indicated that the DF&G was concerned about the decline of black bear in the sound. If indeed the decline is correct, they could make an emergency change in the regulation to correct the problem outside the board cycle meeting.

Before the Whittier access tunnel was open, David say, the harvest of Black Bear was around 200 killed per year; after, the amount was around 400 per year.

Maria Wessel from Cordova DF&G made a presentation via tele-conference about data collected and effect of regulations on PWS bear population.

The AC members concluded that David Pinquoch write a proposal regarding hunting Bears in the sound. Bring it to our next meeting in early February 2015 for review and approval, and have enough time to introduce it at the Southcentral region meeting of Board of Game on March 13, 2015.

Next, we proceeded to elect new members or renew the ones whose terms expired.

Steve Aberle was re-elected as vice chairman.

David Goldstein was re-elected.

David Pinquoch was re-elected.

Brad Von Wichman was re-elected as alternate.

Huey J. Mason II was elected as alternate.

Gordon Scott requested we keep the actual same members holding the position of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and secretary. The request was accepted unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:37 P.M.

**Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish Meeting Dec. 3–8, 2014**  
**Alaska Board of Fisheries**

**Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form**

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
<b>BOF</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Prohibit the release of king salmon in Prince William Sound.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	9	The proposal is too vague. It doesn't said if King under 16" are included. No support as written.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Close a portion of Main Bay to sport fishing.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	8	0	Sport fishermen probably will not like it. But we agreed it is a good thing. 1 abstain.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Reduce bag and possession limit for lingcod in Prince William Sound Area from 2 per day, 4 in possession to 1 per day, 2 in possession.</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	8	0	Most of the members agree with the reduction. 1 abstain.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Close Prince William Sound management area to commercial lingcod harvest when inside and outside district guideline harvest levels are achieved, including lingcod caught as bycatch and directed harvest.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action			Whittier AC took no action.
<b>BOF</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Change Prince William Sound Inside District sablefish season opening and closing date for pot gear.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	9	There is no reason to give pot gear fishermen preference to have the first pick of the season.

Old Business:  
 Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Ric Vrsalovic  
 Minutes Approved By: Jon Van Hying  
 Date: 11-21-2014

