

Kenai Soldotna Advisory Committee
01/27/2020
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

I. Call to Order: 6:41 by Mike Crawford, Chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Al	Belknap	X		
Andrew	Carmichael	X		
Chris	Hanna	X		
Cody	Rutter	X		
Dick	Dykema	X		
Dyer	Van Devere	X		
Eli	House			X
Jerry	Strieby	X		
Joe	Thomas			X
John	Ellanbass	X		
Jon	Essert	X		
Mike	Crawford - Chair	X		
Monte	Roberts			X
Paul A.	Shadura II – Vice Chair	X		
Scott	Miller	X		
Todd	Smith	X		
Will	Lee – Secretary	X		

Members Absent (Excused):

Members Absent (Unexcused):

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brian Marston, Colton Lipka

IV. Guests Present:

V. Approval of Agenda

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report
- b. ADF&G
- c. Others

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

XI. Set next meeting date Wednesday January 29th at 6:30pm, at Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association.

XII. Other

XIII. Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned @ 10:15pm

Alaska Board of Fisheries: Upper Cook Inlet Proposals February 7-20, 2020			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
78	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan to include weighted criteria for the allocation of fishery resources (Kenai River Sportfishing Association)		
Supported	8	6	<p>These changes in in the priority of the fishery would change how management would allocate the fishery. Currently these are already in regulation but are not weighted. By weighing the priority there would be an order of importance on allocation.</p> <p>These are already outlined, but not prioritized. This proposal says "must" which as of right now they do not have to.</p> <p>State of Alaska Constitution already outlines the priority of Alaska fish and game resources.</p> <p>This would put the residents first and secondly it would then go to economic factor</p>
79	Establish a personal use priority for Cook Inlet salmon fisheries (Walt Arthur)		
Opposed	0	14	Constitutionally unfair
80	Prohibit retention of king salmon greater than 36" in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial gillnet fisheries (Alaska Sportfishing Association/Martin Meigs)		
Opposed	0	14	Hard to enforce, this would create by catch and throwing over dead kings does no good.
81	Manage fisheries in Upper Cook Inlet by designating types of salmon habitat (David Chessik)		
Opposed	3	11	<p>Managing by habitat would be difficult at best as not all spawning habitat is cataloged or identified. There are already spawning area closures in areas of need.</p> <p>Concept is possibly valid to help spawning areas where they are being fished and have less protection. More consideration for areas that could use the protection.</p>

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February 7-20, 2020

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82	Allow two regular 12-hour commercial fishing periods per week (Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee)		
Opposed	0	13	<p>Proposal is unclear, but the thought is that this proposal would give a minimum of two (2) regular periods per week in addition to extra EO fishing time.</p> <p>1 Abstention – Regular fishing periods could be more useful to judge run strength.</p>
83	Close all commercial fishing in Upper Cook Inlet (Neil DeWitt)		
Opposed	1	13	This would be unconstitutional.
109	Allow set gillnet fishing periods in the Kenai and Kasilof sections to be managed independently when under “paired” restrictions (South K-Beach Independent Fishermen’s Association/ Paul A. Shadura II)		
Opposed	5	9	<p>Instead of a beach wide opening, this would allow for fishing on abundance on a given specific area within the fishing areas. This would create a targeted fishery, which would then share the same hours during the paired restrictions.</p> <p>Tidal differences could now be fished more efficiently up and down the entire 80 miles of beach. Potentially making the Commercial Fisheries Managers job easier.</p> <p>Possibility of fishing the entire run up the beach could be detrimental to the king run.</p> <p>If the total hours get reduced, this would become much more important.</p>
112	Remove gear restrictions in the Upper Subdistrict commercial set gillnet fishery when the use of bait is prohibited in the sport fishery (South K-Beach Independent Fishermen’s Association / Paul A. Shadura II)		
Opposed	3	10	Author is looking for better efficiency in fishing and does not see any cost savings from fishing the gear restriction.

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			Time and Area has proven to be productive reductions. The gear reduction is only decreasing efficiency during open fishing periods. Gear does tend to shrink in heavy tide which decrease fishing opportunity. 1 abstention – Fine with the current regulation.
175	Allow commercial fishing with set gillnets in the North Kalifonsky Beach area starting July 1 (Gary Hollier)		
Opposed	0	13	Looking for additional fishing time and regular fishing periods. No reason for additional fishing time. 1 Abstention – Out of the room
176	Allow commercial fishing with set gillnets in the North Kalifonsky Beach area starting July 8 (Gary Hollier)		
Opposed	0	14	Currently opens the next fishing period after the 8 th . This would open on the 8 th . Current regulations have been working and the static date would only create 1 extra fishing period.
177	Open the North Kalifornsky Beach set gillnet fishery with the Kasilof section and limit the fishery to within 600 feet of the mean high tide (Chris Every)		
Opposed	0	14	This could be detrimental to the King run, specifically the Kenai. This is only for one specific area, not the entire setnet fishery.
178	Permanently close drift gillnetting in the Upper Subdistrict within one mile of mean high tide north of the Kenai River and within one and one-half miles of mean high tide south of the Kenai River (Ken Coleman)		
Opposed	12	2	If the setnets were to be bought out, this would also close the area to drifters. This would also keep the area closed if the setnet fishery was closed. This could possibly make a more orderly fishery. Reduces the fishery area for commercial fishermen and is currently unnecessary.
179	Extend the commercial salmon fishery season closing date in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections August 15 – September 15 (Karen McGahan)		
Opposed	2	12	No need to have the season this late in regulation.

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			<p>Though we are working under the 1% rule, the season would close earlier than September 15.</p> <p>This would also make sense as the sockeye keep returning later in the season.</p> <p>This could possibly affect the Coho salmon harvest.</p>
180	Allow regular weekly fishing periods after August 15 in the Upper Subdistrict sockeye salmon set gillnet fishery based on abundance (Chris Every)		
Opposed	6	8	<p>Amendment – would like to make the 1% rule still in effect. Still takes into account Coho stocks.</p> <p>Vote on Amendment 14 - Support 0 - Opposed</p> <p>This would only apply in years in over abundance.</p>
181	Delay all Upper Cook Inlet set and Central District drift gillnet commercial fishing opening dates (Mike Adams)		
Opposed	0	14	<p>This would decrease the days fished and would potentially limit them during early run returns.</p> <p>This fishery does not have a big affect on Kenai King stocks.</p> <p>Condensing the fishing time can also negatively affect fish stocks as we would then be harvesting a more specific time period instead of harvesting across the run.</p> <p>Would like to see management not fish the Kenai during the early part of the season when no sockeye are present. This is harvesting the Kenai Kings, instead of targeting sockeye.</p>
182	Open the Kasilof Section commercial set gillnet fishery June 20 instead of June 25 (Jeff Beaudoin)		

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Opposed	3	11	Possible conflicts with the PU fishery
183	Extend the Upper Subdistrict commercial set gillnet season to August 20 (Joseph Person)		
Opposed	4	10	Allows extra flexibility during season of late returns. Did not address EO time after the 15 th . Assumption is regular periods.
184	Open extra commercial fishing periods at a set time of 7 a.m. in the Upper Subdistrict set net fishery (Chris Every)		
Opposed	0	14	This would decrease the efficiency of harvest and decrease the flexibility of management.
185	Open the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery June 20 instead of June 25 provided an estimated 20,000 sockeye salmon are in the Kasilof River (Joseph Person)		
Opposed	3	11	Fishing earlier and reversing the count could help from over escaping the Kasilof River.
186	Eliminate the one percent rule in both Upper Subdistrict set and Central District drift gillnet fisheries (Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee)		
Opposed	2	12	Removing the 1% rule decreases regulation, but the 1% rule is directed to protect the Coho run.
187	Eliminate the one percent rule in the Central District drift gillnet fishery and create mandatory area restrictions based on escapement goals (United Cook Inlet Drift Association)		
Opposed	2	12	This would allow the drift fleet to fish Area's 1 & 3 while also allowing them to fish later in the season in addition to removing the 1% rule.
188	Eliminate the one-percent rule in the Central District drift gillnet fishery (Teague Vanek)		
No Action			
189	Eliminate the one percent rule in the Central District drift gillnet fishery (John McCombs)		
No Action			
190	Eliminate the one percent rule in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery (Karen McGahan)		
No Action			
191	Eliminate the one percent rule in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery (Chris Every)		
No Action			

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192	Amend the one percent rule in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery to apply starting July 31 instead of August 7 (Kenai River Professional Guide Association)		
Opposed	5	9	Could potentially close the commercial fishery early, or between pushes of fish.
193	Amend the one percent rule to a three percent rule beginning August 1 in Cook Inlet Area subdistricts (Mike Adams)		
Opposed	0	14	Would move the date from August 7 th to August 1 st . The increase from 1% to 3% could potentially mean a loss of harvest and an early closure.
194	Amend the one percent rule to a three percent rule for both Upper Subdistrict set and Central District drift gillnet fisheries (Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee)		
No Action			
195	Amend the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet one percent rule to a two percent rule beginning July 31 instead of August 7 (Kenai River Sportfishing Association)		
No Action			
196	Remove mandatory closed fishing periods or "windows" in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fisheries (Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee)		
Opposed	3	11	Windows create barriers for fisheries management and decrease the flexibility. Windows are not perfect but let's fish into the river. It creates an image of potential opportunity. Possibly decrease windows to only the weekend windows.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Will Lee_____

Minutes Approved By: _____

Date: _____