

2021 Prince William Sound Finfish and Shellfish Meeting Roadmap

#### Alaska Board of Fisheries

# PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND/UPPER COPPER AND UPPER SUSITNA RIVERS FINFISH AND SHELLFISH

November 30 – December 6, 2021 The Cordova Center

#### **TENTATIVE PROPOSAL ROADMAP**

(revised November 18, 2021)

(82 proposals)

# <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 1</u>: COMMERCIAL GROUNDFISH (4 proposals – Chair Godfrey)

#### Commercial Groundfish (4 Proposals)

- 1 Establish a longline skate fishery in Prince William Sound.
- Add a 6-hour prior notice of landing requirement for the Prince William Sound Area directed lingcod fishery.
- 3 Clarify possession and landing requirements for the parallel Pacific cod fishery in the Prince William Sound Area.
- 4 Clarify possession and landing requirements for the state-managed sablefish fishery in the Prince William Sound Area.

# <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 2</u>: COPPER RIVER KING SALMON, UPPER COPPER RIVER SUBSISTENCE AND PERSONAL USE (19 proposals – Chair Wood)

#### Copper River King Salmon Management Plan (2 Proposals)

- 5 Establish an optimal escapement goal for Copper River king salmon.
- 41 Repeal mandatory closed waters from the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.

## Upper Copper River Personal Use and Subsistence (17 Proposals)

- Require inseason reporting of subsistence, sport fish, and personal use harvest and effort.
- 7 Prohibit guiding in subsistence finfish fisheries.
- 8 Prohibit dipnetting near tributary mouths of the Upper Copper River District.



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- 9 Prohibit dipnetting from a boat in the Glennallen Subdistrict.
- 10 Prohibit dipnetting from a boat in the Upper Copper River District
- Prohibit dipnetting from a moving boat in a portion of the Chitina Subdistrict.
- Prohibit dipnetting from a boat when within 50 feet of a person dipnetting from shore in the Chitina Subdistrict
- Prohibit dipnetting from a boat within 75 feet of an operating fish wheel in the Glennallen Subdistrict.
- Prohibit the use of gillnet mesh in dip nets.
- Prohibit the use of gillnet mesh in dip nets.
- Prohibit the use of depth or fish finders on boats in the Upper Copper River District.
- 17 Establish specific permit and bag limits when dipnetting from a boat in the Glennallen Subdistrict.
- 18 Extend the lower boundary of the Chitina Subdistrict downstream ½ mile.
- Reduce the maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict Personal Use Fishery when the Copper River commercial fishery harvest is 50% below the 10-year average on June 1.
- Amend the annual limit for salmon in the Chitina Subdistrict.
- Amend the opening date of the Chitina Subdistrict personal use fishery from June 7 to June 1.
- Reverse the positive customary and traditional subsistence use determination for freshwater finfish within the Chitina Subdistrict.

# <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 3</u>: PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND SUBSISTENCE, AND PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AND UPPER COOPER AND SUSITNA RIVERS SPORT (18 proposals – Chair Payton)

### Prince William Sound Subsistence (7 Proposals)

- Reverse the positive customary and traditional subsistence use determination for rainbow and steelhead trout in the Prince William Sound Area, or establish amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence and bag and possession limits for rainbow and steelhead trout in the Prince William Sound Area.
- Add bag and possession limits for Dolly Varden in the Prince William Sound freshwater finfish subsistence fishery.
- 25 Establish allowable gear in the Prince William Sound freshwater finfish subsistence fishery.
- 26 Create a community subsistence salmon permit for Prince William Sound.



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- Amend subsistence fishing season to remove linkage between subsistence salmon fishing opportunity and commercial salmon fishing periods.
- Amend household harvest limits for subsistence-caught salmon.
- Allow use of drift gillnets to harvest salmon for subsistence uses throughout Prince William Sound.

## Prince William Sound and Upper Copper and Susitna Rivers Sport (11 proposals)

- Extend single-hook, artificial fly regulations in the Gulkana River to include the area under the Richardson Highway Bridge.
- Increase the possession limit for sockeye salmon in the Upper Copper River.
- 32 Allow harvest of rainbow trout 20 inches or less in a portion of the Gulkana River.
- 33 Allow harvest of rainbow trout 18 inches or less in the Gulkana River.
- Remove the 14-inch size limit for Gulkana River Arctic grayling.
- Amend bag and possession limits for Arctic grayling and methods and means in Moose Creek.
- 36 Increase the bag and possession limit of lake trout in Crosswind Lake.
- 37 Establish sport bag and possession limit for lake trout in the Prince William Sound area.
- Establish restrictions in the Copper River Delta coho salmon sport fishery based on the number of days the commercial fishery is closed.
- Extend the area closed to sport fishing in Ibeck Creek.
- 40 Close 18 Mile or Silver Creek to coho salmon fishing August 1 to November 1.

# <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 4</u>: PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND ENHANCEMENT AND GEAR, SEASONS, AND CLOSED WATERS (19 proposals – Chair Walton)

#### Enhancement (14 Proposals)

- Amend the set gillnet group exvessel value percentage trigger point in the *Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan*.
- 43 Repeal the definition of enhanced salmon stocks.
- Amend allocation corrective action criteria for set gillnet gear under the *Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan*.
- Increase minimum operation distance between set and drift gillnet gear in the Main Bay Subdistrict.
- 46 Repeal limitations on use of deep gillnet gear.



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- Amend Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan to provide management guidance for reducing Coghill District harvest of salmon stocks bound for other districts.
- 48 Amend Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan to provide management guidance for reducing Eshamy District harvest of salmon stocks bound for other districts.
- 49 Amend the Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan.
- Amend the Armin F. Koernig Salmon Hatchery Management Plan to reduce straying of hatchery-produced salmon.
- Amend the Cannery Creek Salmon Hatchery Management Plan to reduce straying of hatchery-produced salmon.
- Amend the Solomon Gulch Salmon Hatchery Management Plan to reduce straying of hatchery-produced salmon.
- Amend the Wally Noerenberg (Esther Island) Hatchery Management Plan to reduce straying of hatchery-produced salmon.
- Amend the Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan to specify hatchery chum salmon production.
- 55 Amend private-non-profit hatchery permits to decrease allowable hatchery production.

#### Gear, Seasons, Closed Waters (5 Proposals)

- 56 Create requirements and specifications for use of 250 fathoms of seine gear in Prince William Sound.
- 57 Create requirements and specifications for use of 250 fathoms of seine gear in Prince William Sound.
- Amend the Armin F. Koernig Salmon Hatchery Management Plan to provide daily fishing periods.
- Reduce waters closed to commercial salmon fishing.
- 60 Update closed waters defined in regulation by incorporating GPS locations to replace closed waters areas historically defined by physical markers.

# <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 5</u>: SHELLFISH (19 proposals – Chair Mitchell)

#### Sea Cucumbers (2 Proposals)

- Establish a commercial fishery for sea cucumbers in Registration Area E.
- 62 Establish a commercial fishery for sea cucumbers in Registration Area E.



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# King Crab (5 Proposals)

- Amend Registration Area E king crab fishing seasons, guideline harvest level, and lawful gear regulations.
- Establish a fishing season for golden king crab in Registration Area E.
- Establish a department-issued permit for the commercial golden king crab fishery in Registration Area E.
- Amend guideline harvest range for golden king crab in Registration Area E.
- Establish a golden king pot limit in Registration Area E.

#### Tanner Crab Subsistence (1 Proposals)

Adopt amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence for Tanner crab in the Prince William Sound Area, outside the Valdez Nonsubsistence Area.

### Tanner Crab Commercial (11 Proposals)

- 69 Modify criteria for opening commercial Tanner crab fishery in Prince William Sound.
- Modify criteria for opening commercial Tanner crab fishery in Prince William Sound.
- Adopt a new Tanner crab harvest strategy for Prince William Sound.
- Allow the department to issue a permit for Tanner crab fisheries closed more than one year.
- Establish closed waters for commercial Tanner crab fishing in the Prince William Sound Area, Registration Area E.
- Redefine and rename commercial Tanner crab districts in the Prince William Sound Area, and add one additional district.
- Adopt a new a Prince William Sound Area E Tanner crab harvest strategy to align with new proposed districts.
- Repeal commissioner's permits for Tanner crab in the Eastern and Western Districts of Prince William Sound Area.
- Amend the Tanner crab registration deadline.
- Remove district references and include all districts in the Prince William Sound Area E and include a weather-delay provision for the opening date of the fishery.
- 79 Designate Registration Area E an exclusive registration area for Tanner crab.

#### Shrimp Definition (1 Proposal)

Define shrimp. (To be heard at Prince William Sound and Southeast meetings and deliberated on at the Statewide Shellfish meeting.)



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# <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 6</u>: COMMERCIAL HALIBUT GEAR, KUSKOKWIM RIVER SUBSISTENCE SALMON, BRISTOL BAY COMMERCIAL HERRING (3 proposals – Chair Jensen)

# Commercial Halibut Gear (1 Proposal)

278 Include pots as lawful gear for commercial halibut fishing.

# Kuskokwim River Subsistence Salmon (1 Proposal)

279 Extend Kuskokwim River subsistence salmon fishing permit sunset date one year.

# Bristol Bay Commercial Herring (1 Proposal)

280 Extend Bristol Bay Herring Management Plan sunset dates one year.