

2022 Southeast and Yakutat Finfish and Shellfish Meeting Roadmap

Alaska Board of Fisheries

SOUTHEAST AND YAKUTAT FINFISH AND SHELLFISH

March 10-22, 2022
Egan Civic & Convention Center, Anchorage

TENTATIVE PROPOSAL ROADMAP

(revised February 3, 2022)

(157 proposals)

To minimize the time stakeholders and staff need to attend, the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish and Shellfish meeting is conducted in three sessions. The board intends to handle all herring proposals during the first session of the meeting, groundfish and shellfish proposals during the second session, and salmon and all other non-groundfish finfish in the third session. Each session will include related ethics disclosures, staff reports, oral public testimony, committees and deliberations for those proposals. Once all matters related to Session 1 are complete the board will take up Session 2 proposals and then Session 3.

SESSION 1 – HERRING

<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 1</u>: HERRING (15 proposals – Chair Mitchell)

Herring (15 Proposals)

- 156 Modify harvest rate control rule for Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery.
- Modify harvest rate for Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery based on forecasted age structure.
- Incorporate forecasted age structure into Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery spawning biomass threshold.
- Repeal this regulation related to management of the commercial sac roe herring fishery in Sitka Sound.
- Reduce closed waters in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery.
- Require a subsistence fishing permit to harvest herring roe on branches in the Sitka Sound area.
- Increase the possession limit for subsistence spawn-on-kelp harvest.
- 163 Establish equal share quotas for the Sitka sac roe purse seine fishery.
- 164 Establish equal share quotas for the Sitka Sound sac roe herring purse seine fishery.



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- Allow unharvested Sitka sac roe quota to be harvested for food and bait by herring sac roe purse seine permit holders.
- 166 Create an open pound herring spawn on kelp fishery in Sitka Sound.
- Redefine the boundaries of the Hoonah Sound spawn-on-kelp fishery (13-C) and the Sitka sac roe fishery (13-A/B).
- Repeal commercial set gillnet sac roe herring fisheries in Section 1-F.
- Repeal commercial set gillnet sac roe herring fisheries in Sections 1-E and 1-F.
- Remove districts 13-A and 13-B from Northern Southeast herring spawn on kelp pound fishery administrative area.

SESSION 2 – GROUNDFISH AND ALL SHELLFISH

<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 2</u>: COMMERCIAL, SUBSISTENCE, SPORT, PERSONAL USE GROUNDFISH (18 proposals – Chair Jensen)

Commercial, Subsistence, Personal Use and Sport Groundfish (18 Proposals)

- 215 Align state waters sablefish fishing season with federal sablefish fishing season.
- 216 Extend sablefish fishing season to December 15.
- 217 Adjust lingcod bycatch allocations between groundfish and salmon fisheries.
- 218 Establish registration requirements for the Pacific cod directed fishery.
- 219 Clarify lawful gear for rockfish retention.
- 220 Allow pot gear in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish commercial fishery.
- Reduce the minimum inside diameter of circular escape rings from four inches to three and three-fourths of an inch on pots used to take sablefish.
- Require CFEC permit holders fishing for groundfish or halibut using hook-and-line, pot, or jig gear in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area to retain and land all rockfish, including thornyhead rockfish.
- Establish and clarify gear specifications of a groundfish pot for the subsistence and personal use sablefish fisheries.
- Allow rod and reel as lawful gear to harvest rockfish for personal use.
- Modify sablefish bag, possession, and nonresident annual limits based on sablefish abundance in NSEI and SSEI sections.
- 226 Establish bag and possession limit for slope rockfish.
- Reduce the nonpelagic rockfish bag and possession limits and prohibit retention of yellow rockfish.



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- Reduce the nonpelagic rockfish bag and possession limits and prohibit the retention of yelloweye rockfish by nonresidents in the SSEI Section.
- Establish lingcod bag, possession, size, and annual limits for nonresidents in the Central Southeast Outside Waters section.
- Amend the Demersal shelf rockfish delegation of authority and provisions for management to provide a resident priority.
- 231 Amend harvest record recording requirements for lingcod.
- 232 Create a new spiny dogfish pot fishery in Southeast Alaska.

<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 3</u>: COMMERCIAL AND SPORT CRAB (25 proposals – Chair Wood)

Commercial and Sport Crab (25 Proposals)

- Amend the Red King Crab Management Plan to include trip limits and equal share quotas when harvestable surplus is below threshold.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan to base harvestable surplus on historical fishery performance information when surveys are not available
- 192 Establish minimum guideline harvest level and guidance on inseason adjustment of guideline harvest levels in the Southeast Alaska golden king crab fishery.
- 193 Extend northern boundary of the Southern management area.
- Remove Glacier Bay from the list of blue king crab fishing areas within Registration Area A.
- 195 Extend Tanner crab fishing season in exploratory areas.
- Reduce the commercial golden king crab pot limit in waters of Registration Area A from 100 pots per vessel to 80 pots per vessel.
- 197 Modify Tanner crab harvest strategy definition of core, non-core, and exploratory areas.
- 198 Establish fixed start date for the Registration Area A commercial Tanner crab fishery.
- Allow operation of personal use, subsistence, or sport Dungeness crab and shrimp pot gear during the commercial king or Tanner crab fishery.
- 200 Close the Dungeness crab commercial and nonresident sport fisheries in the vicinity of Klawock.
- Expand closed water boundary lines for the Dungeness crab commercial fishery in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area during the summer season.
- 202 Reduce waters closed to Dungeness crab commercial fishing in Tenakee Inlet.



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- 203 Repeal closed waters for Dungeness crab commercial fishing in Merrifield Bay and Port Protection.
- 204 Close the Dungeness crab sport fishery in the vicinity of Coffman Cove.
- 205 Close waters in Coffman Cove to commercial fishing for Dungeness crab.
- 206 Close the Dungeness crab sport fishery in the vicinity of Whale Pass.
- 207 Close waters in Whale Pass to commercial fishing for Dungeness crab.
- 208 Close waters in Kasaan Bay to commercial fishing for Dungeness crab.
- Reduce the number of crab pots allowed and the Dungeness crab bag limit for nonresident anglers in District 3.
- 210 Establish waters closed to commercial fishing for Dungeness crab in Sukwaan Strait.
- 211 Repeal and amend Dungeness crab fishing season in Sitka Sound Special Use Area.
- 212 Extend pot storage allowance after fishery closure.
- 213 Extend pot storage allowance after fishery closure.
- 214 Clarify that Dungeness crab pots are circular in shape.

<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 4</u>: SUBSISTENCE SHELLFISH, COMMERCIAL AND SPORT SHRIMP, COMMERCIAL AND SPORT OTHER MISCELLANEOUS SHELLFISH (21 proposals – Chair Godfrey)

Subsistence Shellfish (1 proposal)

170 Establish a positive customary and traditional use finding for shellfish and plants for all intertidal areas of Southeast Alaska and Yakutat.

Commercial and Sport Shrimp (15 proposals)

- 171 Change the start of the pot shrimp season from October to after March.
- 172 Change the pot shrimp fishery from a fall/winter season to a spring/summer season.
- 173 Change the pot shrimp fishery from a fall/winter season to a spring/summer season.
- 174 Change the pot shrimp season in Districts 2 and 6 from a fall/winter season to spring/summer season.
- Limit the number of shrimp pots that may be deployed on a longline to 10.
- 176 Reduce the number of shrimp pots that a vessel may fish.
- 177 Establish closed waters in the Hydaburg area of Section 3-A.
- Expand waters closed to commercial pot shrimp fishery in Kasaan Bay.



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- Expand waters closed to commercial pot shrimp fishery in Twelve-Mile Arm.
- 241 Define shrimp.
- 180 Repeal observer coverage requirement.
- Open a directed sidestripe beam trawl fishery in District 8 for remainder of November-February season once the directed shrimp beam trawl fishery has closed.
- Divide the District 15 GHR into two fishing areas with distinct GHRs for the new areas.
- Establish tunnel eye size requirements for ridged mesh shrimp pots in the personal use and sport fisheries.
- 184 Clarify the practice of long-lining shrimp pots in the sport fishery.

Commercial and Sport Other Miscellaneous Shellfish (5 proposals)

- Allow the use of artificial lights as an attractant when taking squid.
- Allow the take of squid with hook and line gear with an unlimited number of hooks.
- Allow the department to modify weekly fishing periods by emergency order during the weeks of Christmas and New Year's Day.
- 188 Change the start of the sea cucumber fishery from October 1 to the first Monday or Tuesday of October.
- Allow the department to increase the number of divers allowed to fish from a vessel from two to four by emergency order.

SESSION 3 – SALMON AND ALL OTHER NON-GROUNDFISH FINFISH

<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 5</u>: KING SALMON (16 proposals – Chair Payton)

King Salmon (16 Proposals)

- Amend regulation to address payback provisions when the State of Alaska king salmon fisheries exceed Alaska's annual king salmon all-gear harvest ceiling.
- Allocate any Alaska all gear-allocation king salmon remaining after September 1 to the commercial troll fishery.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to align with the provisions of the 2019–2028 Pacific Salmon Treaty annex.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to manage for an average sport harvest of 20% of the sport/troll allocation with commensurate regulations addressing sport fishery overages in the commercial troll fishery.



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- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to ensure no closure of the resident king salmon fishery due to allocation concerns.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to manage for a resident priority by implementing closed periods and reducing bag limits for nonresidents.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to manage for a resident priority by implementing closed periods and reducing bag limits for nonresidents.
- Make numerous changes to management of commercial troll and sport fisheries for king salmon in Southeast Alaska.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to manage for a sliding sport allocation between 16 and 24 percent with commensurate commercial troll fishery allocation modification under commercial regulation.
- Allow the use of two additional fishing lines during periods of king salmon nonretention in all of the Southeast-Yakutat area if there is more than one CFEC power troll permit holder on board the vessel.
- Change trigger to from an annual abundance index (AI) number to a District 13 early-winter power troll CPUE tier.
- Reallocate the annual troll harvest allocation between the winter, spring and summer troll fisheries.
- Allow retention of king salmon greater than 26 inches in hatchery terminal harvest areas by commercial trollers.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan by reducing the maximum nonresident annual limit to three king salmon.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to manage for a resident priority by implementing specific closed periods and reducing annual limits for nonresidents.
- Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to provide for inseason liberalization of management measures when the sport fish allocation will not be met.

<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 6</u>: ENHANCEMENT AND SPECIAL HARVEST AREAS (14 proposals – Chair Mitchell)

Enhancement and Special Harvest Areas (14 Proposals)

- Expand waters of Herring Bay Terminal Harvest Area open to commercial troll fishing.
- 97 Establish waters closed to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet gear but open to commercial troll gear in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area when spring troll areas in District 6 and 8 are closed.



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- Change the ratio of drift gillnet to purse seine openings from 2:1 to 1:2 in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area.
- Establish a gear rotation between purse seine and troll gear in the Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest area.
- Remove drift gillnet gear from allowed gear to participate in the Southeast Cove THA common property fisheries.
- Modify management plan to further consider potential effect of hatchery-produced salmon on wild-stock salmon.
- 102 Change the ratio of drift gillnet to purse seine openings from 2:1 to 1:2 in the Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area.
- Modify net gear allocation guidelines to further consider potential effect of hatcheryproduced salmon on wild-stock salmon and wild-stock salmon management.
- 104 Create a management plan for hatchery returns to Burnett Inlet.
- 105 Create a management plan for hatchery returns to Port Saint Nicholas.
- Modify boundaries of the Port Saint Nicholas Special Harvest Area and allow use of drift gillnet gear for cost recovery operations.
- 107 Create a management plan for hatchery returns to Port Asumcion.
- 108 Create a special harvest area for Port Asumcion.
- 109 Establish a hatchery special harvest area in Carroll Inlet.

<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 7</u>: COMMERCIAL SALMON (16 proposals – Chair Godfrey)

Commercial Salmon (16 Proposals)

- 110 Require reporting and recovery of lost drift gillnet gear.
- 111 Change the maximum drift gillnet mesh size during periods established by emergency order from 6 inches to 6 and one-eight inches.
- Provide the department authority to allow drift gillnets of up to 90 meshes in depth to be used in the District 11 drift gillnet fishery beginning in SW 34.
- 113 Change the maximum mesh size during periods established by emergency order from 6 inches to a range of five and one-quarter to 6 inches and define dates in Districts 6, 8 and 11 when the mesh size will be implemented.
- Allow the use of fishing rods in conjunction with downriggers by hand trollers.
- 115 Modify the start date of the winter troll fishery.



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- Require retention of king salmon caught during periods of nonretention to be retained if they are deemed too injured to be released and set price at one dollar for selling retained fish.
- Allow for the retention of salmon during periods of commercial nonretention when the sport fishery in the area is open for that species.
- Allow trollers the use of two additional fishing lines in designated chum troll fishing areas in August and September.
- 118 Modify the boundaries of Districts 6 and 8 in Sumner Strait.
- 119 Create a new section in District 6 and reimplement the Section 6-D Pink Salmon Management Plan.
- Remove Section 6-D closure to fishing with drift gillnet gear during the month of August.
- 121 Establish waters closed to commercial drift gillnet fishing in and around Coffman Cove.
- Remove sunset date so regulation remains in effect.
- Remove the sunset date so regulation remains in effect and change effective end date of the plan from July 22 to July 15.
- Establish additional guidelines for the department to manage the District 12 purse seine fishery north of Point Marsden.

<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 8</u>: SOUTHEAST AREA AND YAKUTAT AREA SUBSISTENCE, PERSONAL USE, AND SPORT SALMON AND OTHER NON-GROUNDFISH FINFISH (32 proposals – Chair Payton)

Subsistence /Personal Use/Sport (32 Proposals)

Southeast Area and Yakutat Area Subsistence (9 Proposals)

- 125 Clarify language for subsistence take of coho and king salmon.
- Repeal net tending requirement in Yakutat Bay.
- 127 Repeal net tending requirement in Yakutat Bay.
- 128 Allow use of set gillnets in all Southeast Alaska area subsistence salmon fisheries.
- Modify closed waters and remove coho salmon annual limit for the Klawock River.
- Modify fishing times and locations for subsistence salmon fishery in the Klawock River and Lake.
- Modify fishing area and add hand purse seine as legal gear for the Redoubt Bay and Lake subsistence salmon fishery.



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- Prohibit the use of spears in Redoubt Bay and Lake subsistence fishery from June 21 to August 1.
- Allow the use of seine and gillnet gear in the waters of Redoubt Bay that are open to commercial salmon fishing.

Personal Use Salmon and Smelt (9 Proposals)

- Prohibit obstructing more than half of the stream, creek, or river when personal use fishing.
- Allow permits to be issued for the personal use taking of king and coho salmon.
- Include commercial harvested salmon to fish that may not be possessed on the same day sport or personal use salmon are taken.
- 137 Prohibit personal use proxy permits at Sweetheart Creek.
- 138 Create salmon personal use fisheries in marine waters of the Juneau Management Area.
- Modify where personal use fishing can occur in the Taku River to include all of Section 11-B and remove dates when the fishery can occur.
- Add section 11-B as a personal use salmon fishing area when the area is closed to the commercial drift gillnet fishery.
- Add section 11-B as a personal use salmon fishing area when the area is closed to the commercial drift gillnet fishery.
- 142 Establish bag and possession limits and lawful gear for smelt fishing in the Ketchikan area.

Sport Salmon and Other Non-Groundfish Finfish (14 Proposals)

- Require inseason reporting of nonresident sport fish harvest.
- 144 Establish a logbook program for rental vessels used in Southeast Alaska sport fisheries.
- Align bag limits for non-resident unguided halibut harvest from rental vessels in Southeast Alaska with NOAA bag limits for guided anglers in Halibut Management Area 2C.
- Establish nonresident bag, possession, and annual limits for coho and sockeye salmon in the fresh and salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
- Establish nonresident bag and possession limits for coho, sockeye, chum, and pink salmon in salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
- Establish nonresident bag and possession limits for coho salmon in the fresh waters east of the longitude of Cape Fairweather.
- Establish nonresident bag and possession limits for sockeye, chum, and pink salmon in fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
- Reduce saltwater coho salmon bag and possession limit in Puget Cove to two fish.
- Repeal rainbow trout size limits in Crystal, Glacier, and Moraine lakes.



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- 151 Prohibit guided sport fishing on the Salmon River near Gustavus.
- 152 Close sport fishing in a section of 108 Creek.
- 153 Close sport fishing in a section of Log Jam Creek.
- 154 Allow the use of bow and arrow in Southeast Alaska sport fisheries.
- Prohibit the removal of salmon from the water when nonretention regulations apply and prohibit the use of a multiple hook in Southeast Alaska sport fisheries.

STOCK OF CONCERN ACTION PLANS

Unuk and Chickamin King Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan (RC4)

Klukshu River Sockeye Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan, 2021 (RC5)

Northern Southeast Alaska King Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan, 2021 (RC6)

Stikine River and Andrew Creek King Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan, 2021 (RC7)