



**Homer Advisory Committee
March 8, 2022
Kachemak City Center**

- I. Call to Order: 6:02 by Dave Lyon, chair
- II. Roll Call
Members Present:
Dave Lyon (chair), Thomas Hagberg (vide chair), George Matz (secretary), Marvin Peters, Wes Humbyrd, Doug Malone, Joey Allred, Bob Nathanson, Michael Craig, Dan Anderson, Tom Young., Joe Brewer.

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8
List of User Groups Present: NA
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Jason Herreman
Alaska Wildlife Troopers: Trooper Heid
- IV. Guests Present: Jake Freley, Gabe King, Pat McDowell, Andy, Fetterhoff
- V. Approval of Agenda: Approved
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved
- VII. Reports - None
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - c. Others
- VIII. Public Comment; None
- IX. Old Business: None
- X. New Business: BOG Draft Proposals, see below
- XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting: NA
- XII. Set next meeting date: April 12
- XIII. Other



XIV. Adjourn: 7:30

Joe Brewer proposed for Homer AC consideration.

1. To establish an early archery only season for moose in 15C. This would be a registration hunt.

Justification: Areas 15 A & B already have an archery only season and this would simply complete and make consistent this season for the rest of Unit 15.

The dates should reflect the dates for 15 A & B.

Discussion: The intent is not to allow any additional moose harvest by a hunter. A question came up about how many moose are taken by bow hunters each season in 15 A & B. Jason said about 10%. Marvin pointed out that this issue comes up about every year but hasn't been officially proposed.

Vote regarding Homer AC sponsor this proposal. For – 8, Oppose – 3, Abstain- 1.

2. Establish a muzzleloader moose season in 15C. This would be a registration hunt. It would be a late season hunt utilized as a wildlife management tool by biologists to manage populations. The dates and number of moose to be harvested would be determined by biologists.

Justification: This season would add an opportunity for primitive [weapon] hunters as well as provide an additional tool for biologists to maintain population numbers and health

Discussion: There was some question as to the meaning of primitive weapons. It seems as if the use of new technology blurs the line on what use to be clear. The general idea for such weapons is that they have limited range and provide a measure of safety where human populations may reside. Some AC members favor these weapons because they have more effective kill and less chance of a fatally wounded animal being able to flee. An objection was that if there is a situation where moose populations exceed carrying capacity, and an additional hunt is needed to avoid starvation, why not make the opportunity available to all hunters?

Vote regarding Homer AC sponsoring this proposal. For 3, Oppose- 8, Abstain-1.

Next, the AC took up some draft proposals submitted by Penelope Haas regarding sea duck hunts in the Kachemak Bay area, which created some controversy last winter. Attached are the draft proposals.

There was some general discussion about the drafts. It was pointed out that local hunters are most interested in mallards, pintails, and other dabbling ducks that are better to eat than sea ducks. The interest in sea duck is mostly with trophy hunters that are looking for mounts. Sea ducks, particularly males, are attractive ducks and make attractive mounts. The proposals are oriented to sea duck hunters. The intent is not close the hunt, but to avoid excessive



(nonsustainable) harvest. Jason pointed out that nationwide, the interest in waterfowl hunting is declining. The issues on harvest level are a local issue. Statewide harvest levels are set by the USF&WS based on annual surveys of breeding ducks. States can be more restrictive but can't exceed national standards.

Comments specific to each draft proposal.

#1. Mandatory harvest reporting. Right now, there isn't any for the State of Alaska. It was generally felt that it shouldn't be a problem with changing this so that the State gets data on duck harvest. Having this data can aid management decisions. It was said that this proposal stands the best chance of getting approved.

#2. Mandatory duck ID test. There was no support for this. The administration of the test and what qualifies as passing would be an issue.

#3. Harassment. Jason pointed out that this was already illegal.

#4. Harvest of Goldeneye and Bufflehead. There seemed to be some minor leeway on this issue.

#5. A guide said that clients are aware of regulations on eiders and didn't think identifying eiders from other sea ducks was much of a problem.

#6. Harlequins. Jason said that ADF&G surveys of waterfowl in the Kachemak bay area don't show any population declines under current harvest pressures.

Gabe King, a local duck hunting guide, suggested a proposal. He would like to see the duck hunting season in Kachemak Bay aligned with the Kodiak season. He said that the first month of the season in Kachemak Bay doesn't have many ducks and he would like to have that month deleted and moved to the end of the season. He plans to write a proposal and bring it to the AC next month for discussion.

Wes Humbyrd discussed his desire to have an opening for Dungeness in Kachemak Bay. There was a rambling discussion on this that came down to a vote on whether the AC should support Wes's efforts for this concept at the Board of Fisheries meeting. The vote; For- 10, Opposed -1, Abstain -1.

Next, Tom Hagberg brought up some Board of Fisheries shellfish proposals. See below



Alaska Board of Fisheries: General Shellfish and Miscellaneous Sport Proposals			
March 11 - 16, 2022 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support/Support as amended/ Oppose/No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (pros & cons), Voting Notes, Amendments
<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>			
255	Close the harvest of littleneck clams and butter clams, as follows:		
	12	0	Population needs to recover.
256	Create a management plan for east Cook Inlet sport and personal use fisheries, as follows:		
	10	0 -2	Proposal amended to limit individual clam harvest to 20. Vote on the amendment was For -10, Opposed – 0, Abstain - 2. The proposal as amended was then voted on and passed
257	Add bag and possession limits for Dolly Varden in the Prince William Sound freshwater finfish subsistence fishery, as follows:		
	0	7 - 5	Most not familiar with the issue.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: George Matz

Date: 3/13/2022

Minutes Approved By: Dave Lyon 3/15/22 (Over Email)