



ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues

March 10–14, 2023 | Egan Center, Anchorage

PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

This summary is informational only. The actions indicated below will have legal effects in regulations that provide the sole legal action of the board. All references to meeting materials, including this summary, may be located on the Board of Fisheries meeting website at:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.meetinginfo&date=03-10-2023&meeting=anchorage>

Board Members Present

Märit Carlson-Van Dort, Chair John Jensen, Vice-chair
Tom Carpenter McKenzie Mitchell
John Wood Stan Zuray

C=Carried, C/A=Carried as Amended, F=Failed, F/A=Failed as Amended, N/A=No Action

Action	#	Proposal	Audio Tracking Info ¹
<i>Nushagak-Mulchatna King Salmon Management Plan and Nushagak River King Salmon Action Plan (3 proposals)</i>			
C/A 5-0	11	Make numerous amendments to the Nushagak-Mulchatna King Salmon Management Plan. <i>Amended with substitute language in RC 54. Further amended to include the changes referenced in the footnotes of RC 54.</i>	3-12-23 10:10:46 AM
N/A	12	Make several changes to the management plan to reduce commercial king salmon harvest and increase sockeye salmon harvest. <i>The board took no action on this proposal due to their action on the Action Plan and on Proposal 11.</i>	3-12-23 10:24:54 AM
F 0-6	13	Structure fishing periods in the Nushagak District so that pulses of king salmon, not subjected to commercial fishing pressure, may enter the Nushagak River.	3-12-23 10:25:39 AM

¹ The audio tracking information correlates with the meeting audio available at the bottom of each meeting page. The entry “Meeting 03-10-23” indicates the meeting day. The start time indicates when board discussion on the proposal began according to the meeting audio.



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<i>Gear, Methods, and Means (6 proposals)</i>			
C/A 6-0	82	Modify the dates sinking of gillnets is allowed in the Yukon Area from October 1 to April 30. <i>Amended with the substitute language found in RC 52. Further amended to remove all date references and instead say “when fishing under the ice” or “unless fishing under the ice”.</i>	3-12-23 11:07:14 AM
C 6-0	87	Define eel stick.	3-12-23 11:18:55 AM
C/A 6/0	153	Define escape mechanisms for collapsible ‘slinky’ groundfish pots. Amended with substitute language in RC 51 .	3-12-23 11:24:02 AM
N/A	154	Allow the use of purse seine drums. <i>The board took no action on this proposal due to lack of legal authority.</i>	3-12-23 11:32:07 AM
C 6-0	155	Allow a person using a spear or speargun to take fish while swimming at the water’s surface.	3-12-23 11:33:44 AM
C 6-0	156	Prohibit the use of felt soled wading footwear while personal use fishing in freshwater.	3-12-23 11:38:11 AM
<i>Commercial Fishery Registration, Closed Waters, Groundfish Policy (5 proposals)</i>			
F 0-6	157	Allow a person holding CFEC permits for multiple salmon net areas to commercial fish for salmon in more than one net area per year.	3-13-23 8:55:32 AM
F 0-6	158	Allow a person holding CFEC permits for multiple salmon net areas to commercial fish for salmon in more than one net area per year.	3-13-23 9:03:37 AM
F 0-6	159	Close commercial fishing for a given species within one-fourth of a mile of any area closed to sport fishing for that species.	3-13-23 9:05:13 AM
F 0-6	160	Require surrender of proceeds gained from the sale of wild king salmon caught in hatchery terminal harvest areas.	3-13-23 9:11:41 AM
C/A 6-0	161	Create and establish Alaska Board of Fisheries policy regarding the management of groundfish fishery resources in waters of Alaska. <i>Amended with substitute language in RC 55. Further amended to replace “protection” with “conservation” in line 3 of RC 55.</i>	3-13-23 9:17:45 AM
<i>Sport Fisheries, Personal Use and Subsistence Fishery guiding, Personal Use Fishery Limits, Invasive Species (8 proposals)</i>			
C/A 6-0	162	Allow the Kenai River Special Management Area - DNR decal to serve as proof of ADF&G sport fishing guide vessel registration. <i>Amended to allow the DNR sticker to substitute for the annual date sticker.</i>	3-13-23 9:49:34 AM
N/A	163	Prohibit guiding in personal use finfish fisheries. <i>No action taken due to the author of the proposal requesting its withdrawal in RC 8.</i>	3-13-23 9:55:29 AM



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F 0-6	164	Establish registration and reporting requirements for personal use guides and transporters.	3-13-23 9:56:04 AM
C/A 5-1	165	Prohibit compensation for guide services in subsistence fisheries. <i>Amended with RC 70 as substitute language.</i>	3-13-23 10:02:42 AM
F 0-6	166	Establish a statewide bag limit for personal use finfish fisheries.	3-13-23 10:37:27 AM
F 0-6	167	Require inseason reporting of subsistence and personal use salmon harvest within 5 days of harvest.	3-13-23 10: 55:09 AM
C 6-0	168	Extend emergency order authority to allow restrictions of sport fisheries in contaminated waters.	3-13-23 11:03:23 AM
C/A 6-0	169	Amend the list of banned invasive species. <i>Amended to move red swamp crayfish from Class A to Class B.</i>	3-13-23 11:05:16 AM

Additional Actions:

The board approved the department's [Nushagak River King Salmon Action Plan](#) with the following amendments: [RC 53](#) was adopted as a substitute for the proposed actions in the subsistence, sport, and commercial fisheries. The board further clarified they retain the delisting criteria from the Action Plan, rather than the delisting criteria in the regulatory language of RC 53.

Miscellaneous Business:

The board scheduled a special meeting to consider a proposal from the Native Village of Kwinhagak that was received on time but inadvertently lost during the process of organizing the proposal book for the 2022/2023 meeting cycle. This proposal was provided to the board as [RC 92](#). The meeting is proposed for April 19, 2023 beginning at 4:30 p.m. and will be held electronically via Zoom and streamed live via YouTube. Only written comments will be accepted for this special meeting and will be accepted through April 7, 2023.

The board considered three emergency petitions relating to the commercial set gillnet fishery in Upper Cook Inlet. These petitions were [RC 3](#), [RC 4](#), and [RC 33](#). In each petition, the board did not find that an emergency existed by a vote of 1-5.

The board adopted a finding ([2023-303-FB](#)) in relation to their establishment of Optimal Escapement Goals for Nushagak River sockeye salmon in order to conserve king salmon.

The board considered a draft policy ([RC 90](#)) for the establishment of Optimal Escapement Goals. A motion was made to table this to the board's October 2023 work session.

The board discussed the need to develop consistent processes and timelines for the development of escapement goal and stock of concern recommendations, and when they should be available for public input. There will likely be further discussion on this topic in the board's Committee on Board Process.