



Reviewer Letter

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

September 2025

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) will consider this book of regulatory proposals at its meetings from October 2025 through March 2026. The proposals concern changes to the state's fishing regulations submitted timely by members of the public, organizations, advisory committees, and ADF&G staff. Proposals are published essentially as received, with the exception of minor edits and removal of graphics and web links. If you submitted a proposal and find the published version does not reflect your intent, please contact Boards Support as soon as possible.

Proposals. Proposals are often presented as brief statements summarizing intended regulation changes. Proposed changes are also often written in accordance with the Department of Law's drafting standards: additions are **bolded and underlined** while deletions are [BRACKETED AND CAPITALIZED].

Reading all proposals in this book is encouraged. Proposals may apply statewide, affect one region or fishery of the state, or recommend change to multiple fisheries within an area.

The proposals are grouped by board meeting (see the Proposal Index). Within each meeting, proposals are organized by region, fishery, or species. This book notes if a proposal will be heard at more than one meeting. About two weeks before each meeting, the board makes a "roadmap" with the tentative order proposals will be considered and deliberated on. This often differs from the order of proposals in the book. The board also develops an agenda for each meeting to coordinate with the roadmap.

Public comment requested. The board relies on written comments and oral testimony. Public comment, in combination with advisory committee recommendations and ADF&G staff presentations, provide the board with useful biological and socioeconomic information. Written comments become public documents.

Submit your comments.

Online	https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov
Fax	(907) 465-6094
Mail	P.O. Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526

More about public comments. Comments are encouraged to be submitted by each meeting's deadline (typically two weeks prior to a meeting - see the Tentative Meeting Schedule for the deadlines of each specific meeting). They are included as part of board member workbooks, listed in each meeting's Index of Comments, and posted on the Boards Support website in advance of the meeting. Requirements include:

- Submitted by mail, fax, in office, or through the Boards Support website.
- 100 single-sided pages or less from any one individual or group.
- Fits on 8½" x 11" paper with adequate margins for three-hole punching.
- Web links to external documents or multimedia are not accepted.
- Include the author's name and contact information.
- For charts or graphs, cite the source.

Record copies. Written materials received during board meetings, are termed "record copies". Requirements are the same as above, except:

- Comments are not accepted via email.
- Comments may be submitted by fax or hand delivered at the meeting.
- RECOMMENDED: Comments may be submitted via the online record copy submission form at the start of the meeting.
- Record copies are limited to 10 single-sided pages or less from any one individual or group per proposal until the board begins deliberations on proposals. Once deliberations start, no more than five single-sided pages are accepted.

Oral testimony. The board welcomes oral testimony at each regularly scheduled regulatory meeting. Testimony generally begins the first day of the meeting, extending as long as necessary. There is a sign-up period for testimony at each meeting, found on the meeting agenda. Each person who wishes to speak is generally allotted three minutes for testimony. Advisory committee, federal regional advisory council, and Pacific Northwest Crab Industry Advisory Committee representatives are generally allotted 10 minutes.

Updates related to public testimony will be provided via advisory announcement closer to the start of each meeting. Please watch the board's website for any updates or sign up to receive announcements via email at <https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov>.

Tips for comments.

- Identify proposal(s). Clearly state the proposal number you wish to discuss and if you support or oppose the proposal. If the comments support a modification in the proposal, indicate "support as amended" with the preferred amendment in writing.
- Commenting on more than one proposal. If making comments on more than one proposal, simply list the next proposal number followed by your comments. There is no need for separate pages or to submit multiple comments.
- Explain why. Help the board understand your rationale by identifying factors to take into account when acting on a proposal.
- Keep comments brief and clear. Board members are extremely busy. Clearly stating proposal numbers and one's position with supporting rationale will assist board members.
- Follow the requirements. Pages in excess of the page limit and comments not in the proper format will be discarded. Testimony greater than the allotted time will be cut short.
- The sooner the better. As a practical matter, comments submitted after the board begins deliberations are likely to receive less consideration than comments submitted earlier.

- Write clearly. Whether typed or handwritten, use dark ink and write legibly.
- Use the committee process for detailed comments. The board considers specific proposals, grouped by subject, during committees as a way to receive much greater detail from the participating public. Public testimony should be tailored to encompass major items of importance. Fine details may be reserved for committee work.
- Be polite. Inflammatory material may be excluded or redacted, and public testimony may be cut short.

Advisory committees. Advisory committees written recommendations should be submitted in the format prescribed by the board; boards staff can provide the right form. Recommendations should note the number of committee members in attendance as well as other stakeholders in attendance during meetings. Remember, advisory committee recommendations must be developed at a meeting where the conditions of the Open Meetings Act (AS 44.62.310) were met. When providing public testimony, provide commentary and explain the committee's current discussion. Expressing minority opinions is helpful. Reading off proposal numbers and committee recommendations is difficult to follow; your written comments should cover this sort of summary. For additional information on providing public comment, refer to the Advisory Committee Manual.

Additional instructions for advisory committee chairs. Advisory committee chairs are responsible for calling committee meetings to review proposals and provide recommendations. In order to efficiently budget and provide for travel, pre-planning is essential. Chairs are to identify to Boards Support well in advance of each board meeting if they anticipate an advisory committee representative might attend one of the meetings. Failure to provide early notice may prevent the advisory committee from traveling should adequate funding be unavailable.

Special notes. The board applies various statutes and policies when considering proposals. When addressing proposals affecting subsistence uses, the board provides for a reasonable opportunity for subsistence consistent with Alaska Statute 16.05.258 and regulation 5 AAC 99.010(b). When addressing allocations among commercial, sport, guided sport, and/or personal use fisheries, the board applies its Allocation Criteria (AS 16.05.251(e)). When addressing salmon fisheries, it may apply the Mixed Stock Salmon Policy (5 AAC 39.220) and the Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy (5 AAC 39.222). You may wish to review these statutes, regulations, and policies when preparing comments for the board. See the board's website or call Boards Support staff listed in this book to learn more about the board process.

Persons with a disability needing special accommodation in order to comment on the proposed regulations should contact the Executive Director at (907) 267-2292 no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting to make any necessary arrangements.

Thank you for taking an active role in Alaska's fisheries management regulatory process.

Sincerely,



Art Nelson
Executive Director



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Boards Support Section**
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
(907) 465-4110
<https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov>

**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
2025/2026 Cycle
Tentative Meeting Schedule**

**Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Island, Bering Sea and Chignik Pacific Cod; Bristol Bay Finfish;
Arctic, Yukon, and Kuskokwim Finfish; Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Island, and Chignik
Finfish; Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues**

Meeting Dates	Topics	Location	Comment Deadline
Oct. 28–29, 2025 [2 days]	Work Session ACRs, cycle organization, Stocks of Concern	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	October 13, 2025
Oct. 30–31, 2025 [2 days]	Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea, and Chignik Pacific Cod	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	October 15, 2025
Nov. 18–22, 2025 [5 days]	Arctic / Yukon / Kuskokwim Finfish	Fairbanks Pikes Waterfront Lodge	November 3, 2025
Jan. 13–17, 2026 [5 days]	Bristol Bay Finfish	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	December 29, 2025
Feb. 18–24, 2026 [7 days]	Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Island / Chignik Finfish	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	February 3, 2026
March 17–20, 2026 [4 days]	Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	March 2, 2026

Total Meeting Days: 25

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: Thursday, April 10, 2025

Agenda Change Request Deadline: August 29, 2025 [60 days prior to fall work session]



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Board of Fisheries**

P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
(907) 465-4110

<https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov>

Long-Term Meeting Cycle

(Three-year cycle)

The board meeting cycle generally occurs from October through March. The board considers changes to regulations on a region-based schedule. The fisheries include subsistence, sport, guided sport, personal use, and commercial. Special petition and agenda change request procedures are available for the board to consider out-of-cycle requests.

NOTES:

- 1) In the year preceding a board cycle, the board will announce a call for proposal that prescribes which regions, species, and fisheries are set for regulatory review.
- 2) The proposal deadline is April 10 every year. If April 10 falls on a weekend, the proposal deadline will be the Monday following that weekend.

Meeting Areas and Species				
Alaska Peninsula/Bering Sea-Aleutian Island/Chignik Areas all Finfish				
Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Areas all Finfish				
Bristol Bay Area all Finfish				
Statewide Provisions for Finfish				
Meeting Cycle Years: 2025/2026 2028/2029 2031/2033 2034/2035				
Cook Inlet Area (Lower and Upper) all Finfish				
Kodiak Area all Finfish				
Meeting Cycle Years: 2026/2027 2029/2030 2032/2033 2035/2036				
Prince William Sound Area all Finfish and Shellfish (except Shrimp)				
Southeast/Yakutat Areas all Finfish and Shellfish				
Statewide (except SE/Yakutat/PWS) Shellfish*				
Meeting Cycle Years: 2027/2028 2030/2031 2033/2034 2036/2037				

**Starting in 2021/2022, the Statewide (except Southeast/Yakutat/PWS Tanner Crab) King & Tanner Crab meeting will become part of Statewide (except SE/Yakutat/PWS) Shellfish.*

The meeting cycle repeats itself every three years. This schedule was adopted November 9, 1990 and revised based on workload and public participation.



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Board of Fisheries
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
(907) 465-4110
www.adfg.alaska.gov

Member List

July 2025

NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Märit Carlson-Van Dort (Chair)	6/30/2027
Thomas Carpenter (Vice-Chair)	6/30/2028
Mike Wood	6/30/2026
Gerad Godfrey	6/30/2026
Olivia <i>Henaayee</i> Irwin	6/30/2028
Curt Chamberlain	6/30/2027
Greg Svendsen	6/30/2026

Alaska Board of Fisheries members may be reached at:

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Boards Support Section

P.O. Box 115526

Juneau, AK 99811-5526

(907) 465-4110 PHONE

(907) 465-6094 FAX

www.boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov

Art Nelson, Executive Director, Alaska Board of Fisheries

e-mail: art.nelson@alaska.gov



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Boards Support Section**

P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
(907) 465-4110

www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=process.main

BOARDS SUPPORT SECTION STAFF LIST

HEADQUARTERS

Mailing address: P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526

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Phone: 465-4110; Fax: 465-6094

Kristy Tibbles, Board of Game Ex. Director
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Art Nelson, Board of Fisheries Ex. Director
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Christa Baxter, Administrative Assistant 2
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REGIONAL OFFICES / REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Southwest Region

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Arctic Region

Sam Kirby
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518-1599
Phone: 269-6977
sam.kirby@alaska.gov

Southeast Region (South of Frederick Sound)
Vacant

Southeast Region (North of Frederick Sound)
Annie Bartholomew (see above contact info)

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

The Alaska Board of Fisheries proposes to adopt, amend, or repeal regulation changes in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with fishery and aquatic plant resources in the areas designated below, including the following regulations:

1. IN THE BRISTOL BAY AREA, INCLUDING THE BRISTOL BAY COMMERCIAL HERRING AREA; IN THE ARCTIC-KOTZEBUE, NORTON SOUND-PORT CLARENCE, YUKON, AND KUSKOKWIM AREAS (collectively referred to as Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim or A-Y-K Areas), INCLUDING THE KUSKOKWIM COMMERCIAL HERRING AREA, AND IN THE YUKON RIVER, TANANA RIVER, AND KUSKOKWIM-GOODNEWS SPORT FISH AREAS; IN THE ALASKA PENINSULA, ALEUTIAN ISLANDS, CHIGNIK, AND ATKA-AMLIA AREAS, INCLUDING THE ALASKA PENINSULA-ALEUTIAN ISLANDS COMMERCIAL HERRING AREA AND THE ALASKA PENINSULA-ALEUTIAN ISLANDS SPORT FISH AREA; IN THE EASTERN GULF OF ALASKA, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND, COOK INLET, KODIAK, SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA, CHIGNIK, BERING SEA-ALEUTIAN ISLANDS, AND CHUKCHI-BEAUFORT COMMERCIAL GROUND FISH AREAS; AND STATEWIDE (GENERAL PROVISIONS) FINFISH REGULATIONS OR OTHER POSSIBLE SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUES, INCLUDING ISSUANCE OF BOARD FINDINGS, DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY FROM THE BOARD OF FISHERIES, OR MANAGEMENT OF HATCHERY PERMITTING AND OPERATIONS:

- A. In the **commercial, sport, guided sport, personal use, and aquatic plant fisheries**: fishing seasons, periods, and opening and closing times; bag, possession, size, sex, age, and harvest limits; harvest levels, thresholds, goals, and quotas; definitions; bycatch provisions; districts, subdistricts, sections, subsections, areas, and other management boundaries; locations open and closed to fishing; methods and means; gear and vessel restrictions, including marking and operational requirements; registration and permit requirements; registration areas (including nonexclusive, exclusive and superexclusive registration areas); recordkeeping and marking requirements; management plans for conservation and development, including escapement, inriver, and other management goals; landing requirements; provisions for development and allocation among beneficial uses; guiding principles; provisions to regulate, require, restrict or prohibit the retention, tendering, transportation, dispatch, possession, sale, release, or purchase of fish; methods of release; registration, licensing, reporting, and other requirements for sport fishing guides and operators, guided anglers, catchers, processors, buyers, and transporters; onboard observer requirements; fish storage and inspection requirements.
- B. In the **subsistence fisheries**: identification or modification of customary and traditional subsistence uses and amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence; fishing seasons, periods, and opening and closing times; bag, possession, size, sex, age, and harvest limits; definitions; districts, subdistricts, sections, subsections, areas, and other management boundaries; locations open and closed to fishing; methods and means; gear and vessel restrictions, including marking and operational requirements; registration and permit requirements; recordkeeping and marking requirements; management plans for conservation and development, including escapement, inriver, and other management goals; regulations for the subsistence priority; landing requirements; provisions for development and allocation among beneficial uses and users, including creating and

regulating tier II fisheries; guiding principles; otherwise establish, regulate, change, or adjust subsistence fisheries.

2. OTHER CHANGES TO TITLE 5 AS NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE ANY CHANGES TO TITLE 5 AS DESCRIBED ABOVE SUCH AS CROSS REFERENCES OR OTHER AFFECTED FISHERIES.

The proposed regulation changes are available on the Board of Fisheries meeting information website at <https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov> or from the ADF&G Boards Support Section office at (907) 465-4110.

Anyone interested in, or affected by, the subject matter contained in this legal notice should make written or oral comments to have their views considered by the board. You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to the private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments by the announced deadlines listed below, limited to no more than 100 single-sided or 50 double-sided pages.

Comments can be submitted on these proposals through the Board of Fisheries website at <https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov> and navigating to the page for each specific meeting. The board does not accept written comments sent via email. Comments can also be sent by mail to ADF&G, Boards Support Section, at P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526 or by facsimile to (907) 465-6094.

The specific comment deadline for each meeting is listed below. Individuals and advisory committees directing public comment at an ADF&G office or personnel other than as prescribed above are advised that such comments may not be received and entered as public comment.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT STANDARD:

Once the meetings begin, comments will again be accepted online at <https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov>, by hand delivery at the meeting, or via fax to 907-465-6094. Comments submitted during the meetings are limited to ten single-sided pages until proposal deliberations begin. At that time, the board will **ONLY** accept written comments that are not more than five single-sided pages unless specific information is requested by the board that requires more pages than allowed under this standard.

As a practical matter, comments submitted after the board begins deliberations on relevant proposals are likely to receive less consideration than comments submitted earlier. Additionally, groups of people submitting numerous, form-like comments containing similar language during the meeting is not advisable, and Boards staff will be unable to process and distribute the comments to the board during the meeting. These types of comments will be grouped together or summarized for the board in a single submission.

Each meeting will generally start at 8:30 a.m. on the first day of the meeting dates below unless the board directs a different start time. The public oral testimony period of each regulatory meeting begins after staff reports and continues until everyone who has registered before the cut-off time which will be announced by the board chair at each meeting. The length of oral statements may be limited to three minutes or less for the public and 10 minutes or less for fish and game advisory committee and regional advisory council representatives. Updates related to public testimony and submitting public comments will be provided via advisory announcement closer to the start of each meeting. Please watch the board's website for any updates or sign up to receive announcements via email at <https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov>.

Beginning in late 2023, the board created a process to receive Traditional Knowledge reports. The board endeavors to incorporate traditional knowledge by seeking and inviting traditional knowledge holders recognized by their community, tribe, or by an organization whose interests encompass the conservation, protection, restoration, or enhancement of fishery resources, to share their experiences, values, alternative and/or independent observations and data collections directly with the board.

Per the board's policy, [2024-305-FB](#), the board considers Traditional Knowledge to be knowledge, or a way of knowing, that is unique to a given culture or society, and, often through language, encompasses a worldview that defines specific relationships between humans and nonhuman attributes of the world. As knowledge that derives from both personal and the cumulative experiences of one's forbearers, it is grounded in generational knowledge but also subject to change and refinement. It is characterized by a long time scale. It is usually local in scale and often provides a counterpoint to more broad-based, scientifically produced knowledge.

Communities, tribes, or organizations interested in providing a Traditional Knowledge report to the board must provide their nomination to the board's executive director at least three days prior to the start of each regulatory meeting. For more information, contact Art Nelson at art.nelson@alaska.gov or (907) 267-2292.

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

Work Session

October 28-29, 2025

Egan Convention Center, Anchorage

Comment deadline: October 13, 2025

Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea, and Chignik Pacific Cod

October 30-31, 2025

Egan Convention Center, Anchorage

Comment deadline: October 15, 2025

Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim Areas Finfish

November 18-22, 2025

Pikes Waterfront Lodge, Fairbanks

November 3, 2025

Bristol Bay Finfish

January 13-17, 2026

Egan Convention Center, Anchorage

Comment deadline: December 29, 2025

Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Island and Chignik Areas Finfish

February 18-24, 2026

Egan Convention Center, Anchorage

Comment deadline: February 3, 2026

Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues

March 17-20, 2026

Egan Convention Center, Anchorage

Comment deadline: March 2, 2026

Any changes to meeting locations, dates or times, or rescheduling of topics or subject matter will be announced by news release. Please watch for these announcements in the news media or call (907) 465-4110. Please carefully review the **PROPOSAL INDEX** available for specific proposals to be addressed by the board. Copies of the proposal indices are in the proposal book, available online at <https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov>, and at the relevant meeting. Any additional proposals will be noticed and made available online and upon request.

Anyone interested in or affected by subsistence, personal use, commercial fishing, sport, guided sport, or aquatic plant regulations are hereby informed that the Board of Fisheries may consider any or all of the subject areas covered by this notice. Under AS 44.62.200(b), the board may review the full range of activities appropriate to any of the subjects listed in this notice. The board may make changes to the subsistence, personal use, sport, guided sport or commercial fishing regulations, ensuring the subsistence priority in AS 16.05.258 is upheld. **THE BOARD IS NOT LIMITED BY THE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE OR CONFINES OF THE ACTUAL PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC OR ADF&G.** The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations to conform with regulatory drafting standards and accurately capture the board's intent. **YOU SHOULD COMMENT DURING THE TIME ALLOWED IF YOUR INTERESTS COULD BE AFFECTED.**

If you are a person with a disability who needs special accommodation in order to participate in the proposed regulation process, please contact Art Nelson at (907) 267-2292 no later than two weeks prior to the beginning of each meeting to ensure necessary accommodation can be provided.

The ADF&G, Boards Support Section keeps a list of individuals and organizations interested in receiving emails for regulatory changes and board activities. Those on the list will automatically be emailed a copy of all of the board's notices of proposed regulation changes. To be added to the list, visit the website at <https://boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov> or contact ADF&G Boards Support Section at (907) 465-4110.

Individuals can also sign up to receive automated notifications of all State of Alaska notices, including public notice for regulation changes, by subscribing to the Alaska Online Public Notices System here: <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Default.aspx>.

Statutory Authority: AS 16.05 - AS 16.20, AS 16.40

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 16.05 - AS 16.20, AS 16.40

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulatory actions are not expected to require an increased appropriation.



Art Nelson, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries

9/24/2025
Date