

**Kodiak Fish & Game Advisory Committee
February 4th 2009-KNWRVC**

Oliver Holm Chairman

7:00pm

(Minutes represent a paraphrased summary of the KAC, department staff and public comments and are not a verbatim transcript of the meeting. Tapes of the meeting are available for review by contacting the committee secretary)

Committee elections and selection of officers
Discussion and action on herring work group proposal
Wrap up of 2008 commercial salmon fishery by department staff
Discussion and action on shellfish proposals
Selection of KAC member to attend the BOF finfish and shellfish meetings
February 17th set as next KAC meeting date to discuss and take action on game proposals

FILED
2-12-09

RECEIVED

FEB 12 2009

**BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

Call to order: 7:10pm at the KNWR Visitors Center

Roll call: A quorum was achieved with the following members present: Oliver Holm, Don Fox, Kip Thomet, Julie Kavanaugh, Mike Clark(for Ron Kavanaugh), Rolan Ruoss, Layne Wilde, Alexis Kwachka, Pete Kendricks(for Curt Rivers), Pete Hannah, Mike Horstman(for Paul Chervenak), Bob Mc Garry(for Lou Dochterman) and Dave Hilty(for Al Cratty).

ADF&G Staff: From the finfish division Jeff Wadle, Joe Dinnocenzo and Iris Caldenty and from Shellfish were Wayne Donaldson, Mark Stichert and Nick Sagalkin.

Audience: (2) Bruce Schactler(seiner) and Harvey Goodell(gillnetter).

Approve Agenda: Motion to adopt agenda passed unanimously.

Approve Minutes of previous meeting: Motion to approve minutes of our meeting of December 4th 2008 passed unanimously.

Correspondence: None.

Chair Announcements: Possible to get a sea otter person(USFWS) from Anchorage to update the committee and public on their status in the Kodiak Area

Election of committee members and officers:

- 1) Nominations were opened and closed for committee seats. As all candidates were unopposed the KAC voted unanimously to seat the full slate. Don Fox and Alexis Kwachka were elected to the (2) one year Alternate Seats and elected to the three year seats were Kip Thomet(Salmon Gillnet Westside) and Paul Chervenak(Big Game Guide/Outfitter).
- 2) The current officers were nominated and reelected Chairman Oliver Holm, Vice Chair Paul Chervenak and Secretary Don Fox.

FILE COPY

17th: Shannon
BOF AC
Comments

Old Business:

- 1) Iris Caldentey gave an wrap up of the 2008 commercial salmon season and presented a handout on the preseason preliminary preseason forecast for 2009.

2)Herring work group recommendations:

ACR-#6

Pertaining to the Kodiak Area herring gillnet allocation.

Sitka BOF
mtg

A agenda change request submitted by Bruce Schactler concerning the Kodiak Area gillnet allocation would: rescind the current allocations and return to equal fishing time for each fleet separated by time, but not area. The ACR further requests that the current harvest strategy be re-instated when needed or justified. This request was submitted because in recent years lack of effort by the gillnet fleet left large amounts of available herring quota un-harvested(**stranded**).

Staff comments: If allocation rescinded the department is unclear what criteria would be used to justify re-instating the current allocation. Department neutral on allocation aspects. Whatever is done should be black and white the simpler it is the easier to manage.

Committee comments: The advisory committee met and discussed this issue at great length at our December 4th 2009 meeting. The measure was tabled and a work group formed composed of the various stakeholders and department staff to discuss this issue and present their recommendations at the KAC,s February 4th 2009 meeting. Wallace Fields was selected to chair a meeting to be held at 7:00pm January 8th at the ADF&G conference room. The work group was composed of Mr Fields , Peter Allen, Harvey Goodell, Dave Hilty and Oliver Holm and would be facilitated by department staff. KAC members all agreed that participation by gillnetters was dependent by price in any given year and that if the gillnetters had a few weeks of fishing at the beginning of the season a permit holder would be able to fish the **old allocation** also giving the department some time to assess the participation of the gillnet fleet. Committee members felt that the **work group proposal** needed to be **amended** by striking the language after **(e)(8) After May 7th (deleted language) >>>>> if fewer than five gillnet permit holders have made deliveries in the Kodiak Management Area-----**from the work group recommendations. The committee felt that with out the change the likelihood of un-harvested GHL would still be high. The three weeks at the beginning of the season with the allocation plan in place still allows gillnetters a significant opportunity to catch if the price should rise and effort increase their allocation. This is needed for gillnetters planning to risk re-entering the fishery.

MOTION: moved and 2nd to adopt work group proposal with amended language.

ACTION: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 13-0.(proposal on next page).
(Herring proposal continued):

5 AAC 27.510 FISHING SEASONS AND PERIODS FOR KODIAK AREA.

(4) [TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SAC ROE HERRING FISHERY, A CFEC PERMIT HOLDER MUST REGISTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT FROM APRIL 1 THROUGH APRIL 14.] **before participation in the sac roe herring fishery after May 7, a CFEC permit holder must be registered with the department.**

5 AAC 27.535. HARVEST STRATEGIES FOR KODIAK AREA.

(e)(10)[(C) HARVEST OR EFFORT, OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH HARVEST AN EFFORT, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW ONE GEAR TYPE TO OPERATE IN AN AREA DURING ANY OPEN PERIOD WITHOUT REGARD TO THE ALOCATION SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION;]

(e)(8) After May 7 the department may open any section that hasn't been previously closed by EO to both gear types. The provisions of this subsection do not apply after December 31, 2010.

New Business:

1)Shell fish proposals:

March BOF meeting

Proposal 356

5 AAC 32.033 TENDERS FOR DUNGENESS CRAB.

Allow vessels registered to harvest Dungeness crab to also tender Dungeness crab in the Kodiak District.

Staff comments: NEUTRAL. Department does not anticipate significant changes in effort or harvest if passed although this proposal should not be used as a basis for adopting similar regulations outside of the Kodiak district. Ownership of the crab would transfer once possession transfers to the tender.

MOTION: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal #356.

Committee comments: Agreed with and support department comments. Committee members felt that this proposal would benefit small boat owners fuel costs especially those who fish Dungeness crab at the south end of Kodiak Island. It would also provide more income for tender operators. KAC members Mr. Clark and Mr. Hannah who both fish Dungeness crab supported the proposal but stated that they wouldn't tender crab for other fisherman.

ACTION: MOTION PASSES, 11-2.

Minority opinion: Would open new fisheries and get more people into the fishery to compete against a long established fleet.

Proposal #357

5 AAC 39.143(1) ESCAPE MECHANISM FOR SHELLFISH AND BOTTOM FISH.

Change the statewide biodegradable twine requirements in commercial, personal use, subsistence and sport Dungeness pots from 60 thread to 90 thread.

Staff comments: Department opposed to this proposal. Current requirements of 60 thread was not intended to remain intact for the entire season and reflects BOF intent for

Kodiak Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of February 4, 2009

a 30 day failure rate. Anecdotal information from Kodiak Dungeness fisherman indicates 60 thread lasts 4-6 weeks and 90 day thread could last 50-60 days or longer. Department believe holding crab for longer periods of time will result in injury/mortality for Dungeness crab as well as king and Tanner crab caught as by catch.

MOTION: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal #357.

Committee comments: Agree with and support department comments for conservation reasons.

ACTION: MOTION FAILS, 4-9.

Minority opinion: Felt that adoption would save labor, expense and pollution(old twine thrown overboard).

Proposal #358

5 AAC 38.425. CLOSED WATERS FOR SCALLOPS IN REGISTRATION AREA J. Open an area south and west of Kodiak Island to weathervane scallop fishing and increase the Kodiak Area GHR of 0-300,000 pounds of shucked meats to a GHR of 0-400,000 pounds of shucked meats annually.

Staff comments: Department opposed. A similar proposal addressed at the 2000 BOF meeting and not adopted. ADF&G does not have adequate directed scallop assessment data to prosecute a fishery consistent with sustainable practices. The 100,000 pound GHR increase would need to be reallocated to Kodiak from a different scallop area. Proposed areas have been closed since 1969 due to crab by catch concerns. King and Tanner crab in the proposed area currently below threshold for commercial crab fisheries.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal #358.

Committee comments: Agreed with and support staff comments and also felt that it wasn't prudent to open an area to scallop dredging which according to data supplied by the department that the crab stocks were slowing rebuilding.

ACTION: MOTION FAILS UNANIMOUSLY, 0-13.

- 2) KAC selected Oliver Holm to represent the committee at the finfish meeting in Sitka and Don Fox to attend the Anchorage shell fish meeting.
- 3) February 17th 2009 -7:00pm at the KNWRVC was selected as the date for the next advisory committee meeting to discuss and take action on Unit 8 game proposals.

ADJOURN-9:37pm