

Cooper Landing Advisory Committee
12/11/16
Cooper Landing Community Hall

I. Call to Order: 12:02pm by George Heim

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: John Pearson, Theo Lexmond, Robert Gibson, Todd Donahue, Mike Adams, Ed Holsten, George Heim

Members Absent: Billy Couilliette, Alex Kime, Gerry Neis

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6

List of User Groups Present: 1-12

Note: Theo Lexmond was excused towards the end of the meeting, so number reflects 6 votes rather than 7 from proposals 185-194

III. Approval of Agenda: Yes

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Yes

V. Fish and Game Staff Present: None

VI. Guests Present: Public present: None

VII. Old Business:

i) Discuss BOF proposals for 2017 Southcentral Region BOF meeting. **PLEASE NOTE: On BOF proposal table in the following pages, comments on BOF proposals for this meeting are noted in RED.**

ii) Revisit discussion regarding Salmon on the Upper Kenai River.

- There is great uncertainty regarding escapement on the Upper Kenai as there is no counter on the Upper River. AC will draft and submit a proposal to the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge to install a sonar counter on the Upper Kenai.
- Call for proposals for the next cycle for an Upper Kenai River salmon management plan.

VIII. New Business:

- i) Prepare comments for ACR proposals for the March 2017 BOG meeting.
- 155: Motion to adopt; 3 oppose -predators are important to a healthy herd. 2 Support- predator control can be useful tool
4 abstain- need more information as to when to open predator control.
 - 156: No action
 - 158: Tabled
 - 159: 7 support- a hunter's education class is never a bad idea and it might save some moose.
- ii) Elections.
- By unanimous consent everyone retained their present positions.

Meeting Adjourned 5:00 pm
Next meeting : TBA

UPPER COOK INLET FINFISH FEBRUARY 23–MARCH 8, 2017 ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES			
Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOF	92	Restrict commercial drift gillnet fishery to the Expanded Corridor and Drift Gillnet Area 1 from August 1–15.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	It eliminates effectiveness of the 1 percent rule and is detrimental to silver salmon.
BOF	93	Amend preamble of management plan and restrict commercial drift gillnet fishery to the Expanded Corridor and Drift Gillnet Area 1 from August 1–15.	
<input type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on 92
BOF	95	Restrict commercial drift gillnet fishery to the Expanded Corridors and Drift Gillnet Area 1 from August 1–15.	
<input type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on 92.
BOF	96	Allow commercial fishing with drift gillnets in all waters of the Central District, except the Kenai and Kasilof Sections, from August 16 until closed by emergency order.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Detrimental to silver salmon stock.
BOF	98	Reduce sport fishery bag limit for coho salmon on the west side of Cook Inlet and close drift gillnet fishing in Areas 3 and 4 for remainder of season if coho salmon sport fishing is restricted or closed in the Little Susitna River.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	7	0	Silver stocks seem to be declining and lowering the bag limit may not impact the resource.

BOF	99	Amend management plan to remove all restrictions and manage the commercial set gillnet fishery to harvest surplus Kasilof River sockeye salmon.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Concern of the impact of this on the resource
BOF	100	Open the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Kasilof Section as early as June 20 if the department estimates 50,000 sockeye salmon will be in the Kasilof River before June 25.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	There is concern for king salmon management regarding this proposal.
BOF	101	Allow commercial fishing with set gillnets within 600 feet of shore in the Kasilof Section, with fishing time occurring 600 feet or less offshore not subject to the hourly restrictions in the <i>Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan</i> .	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	This would remove an important management tool.
BOF	102	Amend management plan to allow commercial fishing with set gillnet gear in the Kasilof Section within one-half mile of shore and eliminate the provision allowing commercial fishing with set gillnet gear only within 600 feet of shore in the Kasilof Section.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Creates great concerns for by catch of king salmon.
BOF	103	Add a 24-hour no fishing window on Tuesday in the Kasilof Section through July 7 and adopt mandatory no fishing windows in the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area after July 7.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	7	0	Good step toward king salmon management program. This disperses the burden of conservation.
BOF	104	Reduce the closed fishing period or “window” and increase additional fishing time with set gillnet gear in the Kasilof Section.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on 103.
BOF	105	Allow commercial fishing with set gillnet gear in the North Kalifonsky Beach statistical area (NKB - stat area 244-32) when the upper end of the Kasilof sockeye salmon escapement goal range is projected to be exceeded.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	If it is determined a good number of fish are inriver, not just projections. The sockeye may not be Kasilof fish.
BOF	106	Replace the optimum escapement goal with the sustainable escapement goal for Kasilof River sockeye salmon.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Removing the language of lower end escapement is not a good idea for future runs. OEG is management too and shouldn't be eliminated; we need more sockeye inriver.
BOF	116	Review the optimum escapement goal (OEG) and inriver goals for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	7	0	An upper river management plan is much needed. The in river goals need to be higher for biodiversity. Upper river stock is getting hammered. The actions and decisions of Fish and Game deeply effect those on the Upper River; really been getting tough. OEG important management tool, too much of an open state. We have no historical data of Upper River. Support contingent on these comments.
BOF	117	Amend the <i>Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan</i> to remove the optimum escapement goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon.	

X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	OEG important tool; based on 116
BOF	118		Remove the optimum escapement goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon and add the guided sport fishery to the list of fisheries managed under the plan.
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	No need to single out sportfisherman.
BOF	119		Amend management plan to achieve inriver goal range of 850,000–1,050,000 late-run sockeye salmon at run strengths less than 2.3 million sockeye salmon and 950,000–1,150,000 late-run sockeye salmon at run strengths greater than 2.3 million sockeye salmon.
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	The upper tier of the inriver goal does not provide enough fish on the upper end to adequately distribute escapements throughout the OEG range and in river goals. Counterintuitive to 116.
BOF	120		Decrease the inriver goal ranges for late-run Kenai River sockeye salmon by 100,000 fish and limit the bag and possession of sockeye salmon to three per day and three in possession in the Kenai River sport fishery.
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Based on 119 and 116
BOF	121		Repeal and readopt management plan to remove the optimum escapement goal, mandatory restrictions and closed fishing periods or “windows”, and specify that management will be based on the abundance of late-run Kenai River sockeye salmon.
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	It removes all the management tools fish and game has. Windows are important aspects to have biodiversity in stocks of fish.
BOF	122		Remove mandatory closed fishing periods or "windows" from the Upper Subdistrict commercial set gillnet fishery.
X <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			Based on 121
BOF	123		Repeal and readopt the management plan to allow for the commercial harvest of surplus pink salmon in the Upper Subdistrict with set and drift gillnet gear.
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Concerns for silver salmon bycatch, lack of data collection.
BOF	124		Amend the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i> to remove or lower the daily harvest triggers.
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Concerns again for coho stocks.
BOF	125		Remove mesh size restrictions on set and drift gillnet gear in the commercial pink salmon fishery.
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Concerns of harvest of coho and kings.
BOF	126		Increase maximum mesh size for set gillnets to 5-inches and expand the fishing season to August 6–15 in the commercial pink salmon fishery.
X <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on 125.
BOF	127		Remove inriver goals from the list of escapement goals in the <i>Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan</i> and realign inriver and escapement goals in the <i>Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan</i> .
X <input type="checkbox"/> Support	7	0	Helps assure biological diversity; may get more sockeye into river.

BOF	128	Amend plan to prioritize the need to harvest all surplus salmon stocks and to maximize economic yield and the overall benefits from salmon stocks managed under the plan.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	All salmon stocks should not be open to this plan. Not enough data on overescapement.
BOF	129	Amend plan to prioritize the need to harvest all surplus salmon stocks and to maximize economic yield and the overall benefits from salmon stocks managed under the plan.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			Based on 128.
BOF	130	Amend <i>Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan</i> so that fishery restrictions on fully allocated stocks of concern are shared among all user groups in proportion to the respective user group harvest of that stock.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			No clear intent.
BOF	131	Define commercial fishing statistical areas in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Undermines the intent of the 1 percent rule. Complicates the 1 percent rule, leaves it too open for manipulation.
BOF	134	Remove restrictions in the Upper Subdistrict commercial set gillnet fishery and allow for regular weekly fishing periods through July 20 with additional fishing periods based on inseason abundance.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Management needs to be done before July 2.
BOF	137	Remove “one-percent rule”, where the commercial set gillnet fishery will close after July 31, if less than one percent of the season’s total sockeye is harvested in two consecutive fishing periods.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Concern for silver salmon populations.
BOF	138	Remove the one-percent rule that applies to the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict after July 31 so that the set gillnet fishery will close August 15 and be managed using regular fishing periods from August 11 through August 15.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			See 137
BOF	139	Repeal the one-percent rule, as it applies to the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery so that the set gillnet fishery will close August 15.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			See 137
BOF	140	Allow a set gillnet to be up to 45 fathoms in length and a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission limited entry permit holder to operate up to 135 fathoms of set gillnet gear when commercial fishing with set gillnets 29 meshes or less in depth.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on 141
BOF	141	Limit the depth of all set gillnet gear in Upper Subdistrict of the Central District to no more than 29 meshes deep.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Support	7	0	King salmon conservation concerns.
BOF	142	Close waters within one statute mile of the terminus of Kustatan, Drift, and Big rivers, and Bachatna Creek; as measured from mean lower low water, to commercial fishing.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Support	7	0	Housekeeping- coho conservation is important.

BOF	143	Increase the amount of smelt that may be taken in the Cook Inlet commercial smelt fishery from 100 tons to 200 tons annually.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Definitive run size data is unavailable; lack of data to liberalize the fishery; Beluga stock may be impacted.
BOF	169	Remove restrictions to the Kenai River sport and personal use fisheries and the Upper Subdistrict commercial set gillnet fishery in July and August.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on 168
BOF	174	Remove provisions (e)(3)(A) (i) and (ii) that restrict the number and/or depth of commercial set gillnets fished by a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission limited entry permit holder in the Upper Subdistrict if the use of bait is prohibited in the Kenai River sport fishery.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Paired regulation is important to conservation.
BOF	182	Prohibit all guiding from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	1	5	1 support: no one should have exclusive use 5 opposed: With less sockeye it takes longer to get them. But holding a spot should not be done. All unanimously amend to reference only the river section below Skilak Lake; this is not an Upper River issue.
BOF	184	Relax guiding restrictions when king salmon fishing is closed by emergency order.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Wake and hydrocarbon are issues, as well as a nice day for the public.
BOF	185	Modify language referencing fishing from guide boats on the Kenai River to include all guided fishing.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	6	Intent of existing regulation is conservation of king salmon stock. This will increase crowding and everyone fishing at one time and would increase user group conflict.
BOF	187	Allow only barbless, unbaited, single-hook gear on the Kenai River from January 1 – August 1.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	6	0	Additional opportunity of harvest with bait when abundance of fish is there.
BOF	188	Allow only one single-hook or one single-hook lure.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Support	6	0	Single hooks cause less damage
BOF	189	Allow fishing from shore after harvesting a bag limit of coho salmon.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Support X <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose X <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	2	2	2 support- Plenty of places to fish from shore 2 oppose- catch and release mortality too high 2 abstain
BOF	194	Create a size limit for lake trout on Hidden Lake.	
X <input type="checkbox"/> Support	6	0	Too much pressure on Hidden lake.

Minutes Recorded By: John Pearson
Minutes Approved By: George Heim
Date: 12/19/2016