

Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
01/26/2017
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

I. Call to Order: 6:30 by Chair Mike Crawford

II. Roll Call:

III. Name	Member Present	Member Absent	Member Excused
Al Belknap – At Large	x		
Alex Agosti – At Large	x		
Andrew Carmichael – Subsistence	x		
Christine Brandt – Commercial Fishing	x		@7:15pm
Dick Dykema - Trapping	x		
Dyer Van Devere – Commercial Fishing	x		
Greg Geller – Sport Fishing Guide Seat, Alternate	x		
Jerry Strieby – Sport Fishing Guide Seat	x		
Joe Bressler – At Large		x	
Joe Thomas – At Large			x
Marlene Loomis – At Large	Resigned		
Michelle Williams – Hunting		x	
Mike Crawford – Chair, Sport Fishing Guide Seat	x		
Monte Roberts – Sport Fishing Guide Seat	x		
Paul Shadura II – Commercial Fish – Vice Chair	x		
Todd Smith – Commercial Fish, Alternate	x		
Will Lee – Secretary, Personal Use	x		

Number Needed for Quorum on AC:

List of User Groups Present:

IV. Approval of Agenda:

V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From [meeting date]

VI. Fish and Game Staff Present: Pat Shields, Jason Pawluk, Brian Marston

VII. Guests Present: Robert Ruffner, Board of Fish

VIII. Old Business:

IX. New Business:

Pat Shields shared the board agenda and road map for the upcoming Board of fish meeting

Paul Shadura: spoke about the genetic study that he learned about from attending a meeting in Kodiak. This study was a study on Sockeye and King Salmon through the Kodiak fishery including both Commercial and Sport fishery.

Paul broke down some numbers from the study on the different amounts of fish going to Cook Inlet by species for both Kings and Sockeye. The numbers were broken down by number of fish caught.

A big part of this study is only certain parts of water and there is some missing data from other fishery areas.

ADF&G Genetics Lab will be giving a report on this genetic study during the Board of Fisheries meeting. Question that needs to be asked, Is the fishery catching fish off-shore or in the localized river mouth fisheries or both.

Member Christine Brandt left at 7:50pm

Break at 8:30pm
Restart at 8:33pm

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	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	11	Increasing setnet area, and decreasing drifters, also restricting gear for drifters that are unrealistic. This would also remove fishing windows.

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	2	9	<p>The word “shall” is very definitive and could be restrictive as a management tool. They already have the ability to open the fishery early.</p> <p>Even with the word shall fishing can be closed by EO. This would make the fishery open if the early run is strong. The timing of this run is also very important.</p>
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"/> Support	11		<p>Change in language to mean high-tide would make fishing and regulation easier for everyone. Hours could be construed as an allocation issue. This fishery can be very effective in culling Kasilof sockeye runs.</p> <p>This tool would help keep the Terminal Fishery as a more limited fishery. This would allow for a shore fishery by EO and add a tool especially in the early season when the fishing could be directly at Kasilof sockeye.</p> <p>Though this would now allow anyone in Kenai Setnet fishery allowed to fish.</p>
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	11	This would eliminate the 600 ft out of the management plan. Also this would make the terminal fishery and on-half mile fisheries tied, which would have a broader fishing window, which would have to then EO closures depending on conservations issues.
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"/> Oppose	2	9	Further restrictions on fish and game management. This would have the possibility of increasing the terminal fishery later in the year. There does have to be time with nets out of the water. Though windows could fill that prescription windows also make management more difficult by forcing openers. Also windows don't necessarily save king salmon.
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"/> Oppose	2	9	<p>Add to much time without any conservation. Proposal is also very complex.</p> <p>Support: opportunity and local managers should not be overly restricted. Increase management flexibility.</p>
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	11	Gear restrictions make this too restrictive and the date of the opening is too early. Run composition is not yet available and the amount of Kasilof sockeye that could be caught is unknown.
BOF	106	Replace the optimum escapement goal with the sustainable escapement goal for Kasilof River sockeye salmon.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	5	5	<p>Pat explained how the OEG goal came about for the Kasilof Sockeye. Upper end is 340,000. Once the Kenai meets the bottom end of SEG of 900,000, the Kasilof OEG is no longer valid.</p> <p>OEG only comes in to play when the Kenai is having a low number and difficulty in making the bottom end of the SEG</p> <p>1 abstained</p>
BOF	107	Replace the optimum escapement goal with a sustainable escapement goal for Kasilof River sockeye salmon.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on based on 106
BOF	108	Replace the optimum escapement goal with the current biological escapement goal for Kasilof River sockeye salmon.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on based on 106
BOF	109	Provide clarification on the use of gear in the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA) for individuals who hold two Cook Inlet set gillnet Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) limited entry permits.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	9	0	<p>This would give the decision to board of fish for clarification of the law.</p> <p>2 abstain – needs to be more definitive.</p>
BOF	110	Allow a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission limited entry permit holder to commercial fish in the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area with one gillnet per limited entry permit held.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on 109 & 111
BOF	111	Allow a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission limited entry permit holder to commercial fish in the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area with one set gillnet per limited entry permit held.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	6	5	<p>This would allow for any person that has 2 permits would fish 2 nets in the Special Harvest Area.</p> <p>Clarification of the law</p> <p>Opposed: would like to have the board of fish look at 109. this could potentially add more gear into the terminal fishery. How many dual permit holders are there on the East Side Set Net Fishery.</p>
BOF	112	Allow holders of two Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission set gillnet limited entry permits to fish two set gillnets in the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action			No action based on 109 & 111
BOF	113	Remove restrictions on the amount of drift or set gillnet gear a vessel may have on board within the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area.	

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	11	0	This would allow fishermen to be more agile and better prepared for different fisheries. As well as not having to remove and change gear from different openers and fisheries.
BOF	114	Require all nets, buoys, ropes and anchoring devices to be removed from the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area when this area is closed to commercial fishing.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	10	1	<p>Could possibly create more conflict, but currently there are people already staking the preferred fishing areas. The area is a non-lease and special open fishery. Everyone should have equal opportunity to fish any given area.</p> <p>This does not solve the actual issue that is occurring within the area and could be hard to enforce.</p>
BOF	115	Define the boundary that separates set gillnet from drift gillnet gear in the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA), and define the outside boundaries of the KRSHA.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	11	0	This just clarifies and defines fishing areas and boundaries.

Next meeting is tentatively February 7th & 8th
Adjournment: Meeting adjourned @ 10:05pm

Minutes Recorded By: Will Lee
Minutes Approved By: Advisory Committee
Date: 2/8/2017