

**Sitka Advisory Committee
Wednesday, November 1st 2017
Centennial Hall**

- I. **Call to Order:** [602pm] by [Jon Murray]
- II. **Roll Call:** Jeffrey Feldpausch, Andrew Thoms, , Brian Massey, Tad Fujioka, , Eric Jordan, Dick Curran, Karen Johnson, Moses Johnson, John Murray, Wayne Unger, Randy Gluth
Members Present: 11
Members Absent: 5
Jon Martin, Joel Markis, Luke Bastian, Bradley Shaffer, Chris Whitehead,
- III. **Approval of Agenda**
- IV. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**
- V. **Fish and Game Staff Present:** Troy Tydingco AK DF&G,
- VI. **Guests Present:** Spike Arnold, Linda Behnken, Heather Baucher, Carolyn ____
- VII. **Old Business:**

Elections: Tad Fujioka nominated Brian Massey Vice-Chair, Dick Curran Seconded.
Vote- 8 in favor, 0 oppose

Brian Massey Vice Chair seat-- Approved
- VIII. **New Business:**

BOF GroundFish Proposals:

Proposal 113: Definitions: Harvest of bait by commercial permit holders in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area

Support: make consistent with other regs

Oppose: no discussion

Vote: 8-0

Motion passes

Proposal 114: allow transport of live groundfish

Support: there is a potential for a market and if someone can do it and find a market for it, terrific

Oppose: is there an ability to weigh and measure the fish while live???

Vote: 8 in favor, 0 oppose, 1 abstain

Motion passes

Proposal 115: Create a new commercial fishery for spiny dogfish sharks using pot gear in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area

Support: opportunity for a fishery

Oppose: long reproductive cycle? Viability of market or interest of processors?

Vote: 1- support, 7- oppose, 1 abstain

Motion Fails

Proposal 116: General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Support: increasing targeting of this species by sport-fisherman. Interest has grown. Upward trend in harvest. Need to understand amount of harvest in state and federal waters. Perhaps

Oppose: no discussion opposing

Vote: 9 support, 1 oppose, 1 abstain

Amendment to proposal offered by Sportfish Representative Brian Massey:

change proposal to: nonresident - 2 daily, 2 in possession, 6 fish annual limit, harvest record required

Dick Curran Seconded

Vote: 10 in favor, 0 Oppose, 1 abstain

Motion Passes

Proposal 121: Sablefish fishing seasons for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area. Allow Southern Southeast Inside permit holders the option of using longline or pot gear for sablefish, as follows:

Support: no discussion in support

Oppose: huge potential for nuisance to avoid pots that are left on the fishing ground and a need to be more cautious about opening up pot fisheries in SE AK. Huge problem of lost pots. King Crab by catch. Very little incidents of marine mammal predation in Chatham and Clarence

Vote: 0- support, 11- oppose

Motion: Fails

Proposal 122: Harvest guidelines and ranges for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Support:

Oppose: the state should continue its own surveys

Vote: 0- support, 10- oppose, 1 abstain

Motion: Fails

Proposal 123: Lingcod possession and landing requirements for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Support: abundance has gone down and there is concern around populations; larger fish are generally female

Oppose: hard to catch for commercial fishery, no need to make it more difficult; sportfisher rep caught more juvenile this year than ever

Vote: 0- support, 11- oppose, 0 abstain

Motion: Fails

Proposal 124: Closed waters in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area and 5 AAC 28.173. Lingcod possession and landing requirements for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area. Allow the sale of up to two lingcod taken as bycatch in the commercial salmon troll fishery in Sitka Sound, as follows:

Support: with a 2 fish limit, is very restrictive; lots of lingcod bycatch in the sound; more than any other year; won't have a big impact because of how infrequently lingcod are caught while trolling in experience of troll rep

Oppose: felt to go against the spirit of the LAMP

Vote: 2 support, 9- oppose, 0 abstain

Motion: Fails

Proposal 126: Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish. Require all anglers to release nonpelagic rockfish at depth with a deepwater release mechanism, as follows:

Support: in the spirit of conservation, this gives people the signal to work on conserving the resource and thinking about conservation and they are perhaps on the right track but not quite there.

Oppose: this is onerous for people in small boat, kids fishing in close, harbors, areas like that

Move to amend by Eric Jordan: Change the proposal to apply to only **non-resident** anglers

Second by Brian Massey

Vote on amendment: 11 in support, 0 oppose

Vote: 11 support, 0 oppose

Motion: Passes

Proposal 127: Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area. Establish provisions for not reducing the resident pelagic rockfish bag limit in Central Southeast Outside waters, as follows:

Support: the increase in take is because of the charter fleet. Resident take has been consistent since 2007. Resident bag limit should not be reduced because charter take increases

Oppose: no discussion of opposition

Vote: 11 support, 0 oppose

Motion: Passes

Proposal 128: Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area. Reduce the pelagic rockfish limits in the Sitka Area, as follow

Proposal to open with Amended by Eric Jordan: make this proposal for “non-resident” rather than resident

Brian Massey Second

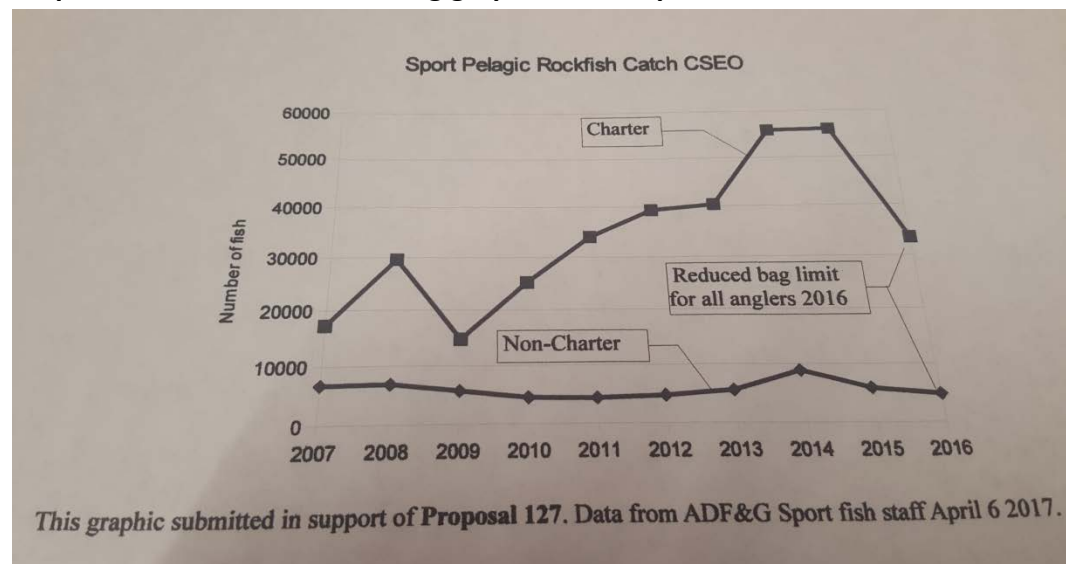
Support:

Oppose:

Vote: 11 support, 0 oppose

Motion: Passes

Request to include the following graph that was provided to the Sitka AC:



Proposal 129: Rockfish possession and landing requirements for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Support: could be supported for a conservation standpoint

Oppose: difficulties on putting strict limits

Discussion: the board felt there was confusion and we want ADFG manager Mike Vaugh ADFG Commercial Groundfish biologist to be present to advice.

Motion to table: Brian Massey with Tad Fujioka seconding

Tabled vote

Vote:

Motion: held for later

Eric Jordan Moves to Adjourn Meeting closes 7:29pm

Future Meeting Dates:

- **November 8th - (Shellfish proposals and Shellfish seat election) 6pm Centennial Hall**
- **November 15th - (Finfish excluding Herring) 6pm Centennial Hall**
- **November 29th - (Finfish/Herring Proposals) 6pm Centennial Hall**

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Andrew Thoms
Minutes Approved By: Full Sitka AC
Date: November 15th, 2017