

**Seward Fish and Game Advisory Committee**  
**November 8, 2018**  
**Seward City Council Chambers**

- I. Call to Order: [7:03] by Chair McCracken
- II. Roll Call:  
Members Present: Andrew Bacon, Kenn Carpenter, W.C. Casey, Mark Clemens, Dianne Dubuc, Jim Hubbard, Nathan Smith, Bob White, Jim McCracken  
Members Absent (Excused): Ezra Campbell, Trent Foldager, Arne Hatch  
Members Absent (Unexcused):  
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6  
List of User Groups Present: 1-10, 12
- III. Approval of Agenda: Agenda was approved by consensus of the committee
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: The approval of the minutes for the April 4, 2018 meeting was postponed until the next meeting
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present:  
Jeff Selinger, ADFG  
Trooper Ben Endres, AWT
- VI. Guests Present:  
Kristen Bates, Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA)  
Jess Swett, CIAA Board representative for the City of Seward
- VII. A. Jeff Selinger began his presentation by discussing moose harvest data in Unit 7. Selinger reported 4 moose harvested in unit 7, down from 6 last year. There were also 3 sublegal moose harvested for which citations were issued. Discussion followed regarding the causes of low moose populations in Unit 7. **Selinger** stated that the low populations were due to poor quality moose habitat on the Eastern Kenai Peninsula. Members of the AC pointed out that historically moose harvests had been quite high in unit 7. Chair **McCracken** asked about appropriation of intensive management funds. Selinger stated that unit 7 was not an intensive management area due to the low harvest numbers.  
**Casey** asked what the plan was for increasing moose populations in unit 7. Selinger stated that there was currently no plan, and cited the poor quality habitat as being the limiting factor. **McCracken** asked how low the moose population has to go before we hit

crisis levels. The discussion turned toward what the Advisory Committee could do to bring this issue forward and begin addressing solutions with ADF&G.

Selinger stated that we could draft a letter of concern, and send it through his office or straight to the Board of Game. Selinger suggested that we discuss the need to promote and increase regeneration of willow, aspen and birch in riparian areas. Since ownership of these riparian areas is mainly US Forest service, Selinger suggested that we work with that agency on effecting a habitat management plan to promote moose population.

B. Trooper Ben Endres reported no trends in illegal F&G activity. Endres reported writing a couple tickets for overharvest of salmon and a couple for over age lagoon fishing during the youth fishery. **Carpenter** thanked Trooper Endres for his presence at Kids Fishing Day at First Lake in May.

VIII. Old Business:

Kids Fishing 2018 report and 2019 outlook: **Carpenter** reported 80+ kids attended the 2018 event. Families from Yakutat, Petersburg, and Eagle River attended. There were lots of prizes distributed to participants, including: 54 rods & reels, 10 tackle boxes and 60 grab bags; with contributions from the Fish House, Kenai Cache, Trustworthy Hardware. This year prizes were given to kids who caught first fish in different age brackets.

2019 Kids Fishing will be the third Saturday in May. Carpenter agreed to chair the event.

IX. New Business:

1. Game Proposals – See vote sheet below
2. Fish Proposals – See vote sheet below
3. Joint Fish & Game Proposals – See vote sheet below
4. Authorization for committee member to travel to BoF or BoG meetings

Motion: **(Hubbard / Casey)** Authorize Diane Dubuc to travel to Board of Fish and Board of Game meetings. Passed unanimous.

X. Citizens comments- none

XI. Schedule for next meeting / future agenda items:

**Dubuc** proposes to discuss the Fall LCI BOF meeting—to occur in November 2018

AC Consensus is to schedule next meeting in the spring after the BoF and BoG meetings. Next meeting should also coincide with deadline for LCI proposals as well. Chair McCracken will contact board support re: proposal book publication/comment deadline

Seward AC would like to host a reception on first night of the 2019 LCI Board of Fish meeting. **Casey** proposes a subcommittee to organize the reception. Volunteers for the committee were: Hubbard, Carpenter, Smith, McCracken, Dubuc (**chair**)

XII. Adjournment at 10:07 PM (Clemens)

**Item IX 1.**

Alaska Board of Game Proposals			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
85	Reduce the resident bag limit for black bear in Units 7 and 15		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	
86	Reduce the bag limit for spruce grouse in Unit 7 and 15		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	
87	Close the ptarmigan season in Unit 15C		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	
92	Open a hunting season for tundra swan in Units 7 and 15		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Smith</b> supported this proposal because hunting opportunity existed in other states, while Alaska served as a breeding ground for tundra swans. <b>Seward AC</b> opposed this proposal because the wording was vague, there is concern about the misidentification of tundra vs. trumpeter swans given the vast majority of swans in units 7 and 15 are trumpeter swans.
78	Establish resident drawing hunts for “any bull” moose in Units 15 and 7		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Seward AC</b> was concerned that Unit 7 could not support the increased hunting pressure this would bring about
89	Close the trapping season for beaver in an area of Units 7 and 15C		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	
113	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C		
<b>Support</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Chair McCracken</b> voted No in commemoration and recognition of former Seward AC member Billy Miller
74	Open a resident drawing hunt for moose in Unit 15C		
<b>Support</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	

**Item IX 2.**

Alaska Board of Fish Proposals			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
161	Require weekly reporting of salmon harvest by all permit or license holders as follows		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Seward AC</b> considered proposals 161 & 162 together and oppose both proposals moving forward statewide; and would prefer instead to consider these proposals on an area-specific basis during the appropriate board cycle
162	Require biweekly reporting of all sport, personal use, and subsistence king salmon catch as follows		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Seward AC</b> considered proposals 161 & 162 together and oppose both proposals moving forward statewide; and would prefer instead to consider these proposals on an area-specific basis during the appropriate board cycle
166	Require rockfish to be released at depth		
<b>Support</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Seward AC</b> brought forth this proposal to promote rockfish conservation and awareness that these fish can be released safely if done properly. It was noted in discussion that charter sport fishing vessels will be required to use deepwater release mechanisms in the near future and that this proposal would require the same of private anglers
171	Criteria for the allocation of fishery resources among personal use, sport, and commercial fisheries		
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	
172	Define “bow and arrow” as follows:		
<b>Support</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	

**Item IX 3.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Alaska Joint Board of Fisheries &amp; Game Proposals</b> March 21-25, 2019   Anchorage, AK</p>			
<b>Proposal Number</b>	<b>Proposal Description</b>		
<b>Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action</b>	<b>Number Support</b>	<b>Number Oppose</b>	<b>Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes</b>
13	Change the advisory committees having jurisdiction for the Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay area by removing Mt. Yenlo and Denali Advisory Committees		
<b>Support</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Seward AC</b> comments that the specific area of concern is removing jurisdiction of the above mentioned ACs from waters of the North Gulf Coast from Gore Point to Cape Fairfield, or also referred to as Eastern District, Lower Cook Inlet. The Seward AC was advised, on drafting the proposal, that Cook Inlet/Resurrection Bay was a defined 'area of jurisdiction' and it would be appropriate to word our proposal to cite that specific area.
20	Amend the removal for cause provisions		
<b>Support</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	
21	Amend the advisory committee vacancy rules		
<b>Support</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	

Minutes Recorded By: Andrew Bacon  
Minutes Approved By: Jim McCracken, Chair  
Date: January 8, 2019