

Chignik Fish and Game Advisory Sub-Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 3, 2013. 2:00pm

Call to order – 2:20pm by Chairman Jacob Shangin

Roll call – Ivanof Bay – Jacob Shangin; Chignik Lagoon – Rodney Anderson, Don Bumpus, Alfredo Abeuid, Chignik Bay - Ben Allen; Aaron Anderson as a seated nonvoting public member on the subcommittee.

Voting Members: Ben Allen, Jacob Shangin, Alfredo Abuied

Approval of Agenda – Don Moves to Approve, Alfredo 2nds, All in Favor

Introduction:

- ADF&G Staff – Trent Hartill, Mark Stichert, Susie Jenkins-Brito
- Guests - Aaron Anderson

New business:

- I. Board of Fisheries –Pacific Cod Board of Fisheries Proposal 15, Possible Amendments by the AC

Chignik Pacific Cod

PROPOSAL 15 –Ben Moves to bring proposal back to the table, Alfredo 2nd ACTION: Fails 1-2

DESCRIPTION: Change state-waters Pacific cod jig season opening date and limit jig vessel size.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: Don states his concerns about excluding Jig fishermen from the fishery should the pot fishermen take the whole quota.

Ben would like to see a separation from the small boats and big boats and wants to allocate the pot quota out a little bit. Some percentage set aside just for the small boats that they can fish off of with an option for the percentage to raise should that small boat quota is caught.

Alfredo – We don't want to give the little boats more than they have been historically caught. I am against setting aside any of the current Pot quota to the small boats, if they want to fish off a quota not currently being caught that I'm fine with that but I do not want to give any of the pot quota for specific size of boats. If only one small boat were fishing to have a quota set aside for just small boats would guarantee that fishermen almost a ½ million dollar catch. If they want to catch more cod they should invest in a bigger boat. We should be in alignment with the other areas in the state and nowhere else allows small boats their own fishery.

Don – I have a 50 foot boat but I hear many length limits tossed around; what size are we looking at to call small boat. I have been fishing for 45 year and have never had a hard time fishing against the bigger boats. This is for our lifestyle we fish but we work in other industries when we need too.

Jacob – we need to find an amendment that everyone can work with.

Alfredo – Chignik has always been a small boats fishery, but we work with that and continue to improve. Some years the weather allows for small boats to fish and some years it doesn't. It is not certain these larger boats will stay in the Chignik area. We don't want to create another quota to be left on the table if it can't be caught. I don't want to jeopardize people's right to make a living if we set aside a quota for just small boats and it's not caught we will all lose out. We don't want to make a change based on just a few years of the fishery. Let's give this a couple more years before we set aside quota that only small boats can touch, there are only 3-4 boats fishing - that's welfare by the time they get 10-15% of the quota we are giving them welfare. If you want to be competitive you need to invest in the fishery.

Don asked what the breakeven point is for say Trident to send in a tender, Ben have you checked on this?

Ben - said he has talked to Trident about it and they replied they would send a tender if there was fish.

Don – if we create another fishery will we be leaving even more quota on the table?

No one jigs for cod after salmon now because there are no tenders. Would they stay for pot cod if little boats are fishing?

Don – Norquest wouldn't buy jig fish in the past in the fall and the quota stayed on the table.

Alfredo – It's hard to find crew after salmon fishing, they have made their money and have left.

Don – in the fall the fish can be gone.

Ben – wants a small split we just want a little protection so we can afford to compete.

Alfredo – You have to work for it!

Jacob – we need to find a little bit of a concession maybe to make both sides competitive.

Aaron – asks about a village CDQ to protect the cod fishery for locals, we are losing our school funding because people are leaving the communities.

Jacob – We don't want people to just come and make the money here and take it with them when they leave.

Rodney – When the opening date moved up we were fishing earlier, it's an open invitation for the super 8's to come down and fish – they are the BIG boats. They are the ones we should be concerned about

sucking up the quota. I have a 58 footer but in really rough weather even I can't compete. We ultimately need to come to some kind of conclusion but taking from the pot fishery to give it to the little boats has already been address for using jig gear. The jig fishery is the small boat fishery.

Alfredo – the fishery fluctuates we do not need to base changes over just a few seasons participants. There are years even 5-6 years ago that we couldn't catch the whole pot quota. This is a high cycle for cod, we do not need to base big changes off a few years fishing outcomes. We don't need to be different from the other districts for cod. It will work itself out, let's leave this for a few years and revisit it then.

Aaron – If you try to make a fishery for the villages with smaller boats, we could end up enticing small boats from other areas.

Rodney – likes the idea of a CDQ for the local folks to access the cod.

Alfredo – the catch steadily changes it is unreliable what can be caught; I don't like the idea of setting aside quota that may be untouchable and left on the table.

Ben – Moves to amend the proposal – Jig quota untouched – small boats previous years catch 7% (10% small boats) - the rest for larger boats.

Jacob – is there a second? No.

Motion Fails.

Question Called.

Ben – Chignik Bay – Yes

Alfredo – Chignik Lagoon - No

Jacob – Ivanof Bay– No

II. General Discussion on Cod.

Aaron makes a motion to have the AC work with the 5 Chignik Area communities to develop a CDQ program for the Villages; quota to be taken from the Federal TAC.

Alfredo – 2nds

Question called by Ben.

Alfredo – Yes; Jacob – Yes; Ben – No

Old Business: Representation at BOF P. Cod Meeting – Alfredo can go to the meeting; he will be in Anchorage at that time. Jacob will try and attend to testify but Alfredo and Ben both have the authority to testify as well, by reading the AC minutes and giving AC opinions.

- I. Set date and location of next meeting. Set date and location of next meeting, to Discuss Chignik Finfish and Kodiak Finfish BOF Proposed Regulatory Changes at upcoming 2013-2014 meetings.

It is discussed a tentative date October 29th, 2pm. Susie will check with the AC members and the Department prior to setting the firm meeting date.

Adjournment: 3:22 pm