

Lake Iliamna Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2012

The Lake Iliamna Fish & Game Advisory Committee planned to meet March 7th at 10 am at the NewHalen Teen Center in order to hear a report by Ken Taylor on the Moose and the Rainbow Trout tagging study done by Pebble Partnership, Chuck McCallum will be there from Lake & Peninsula Borough to provide information, have a discussion regarding the *Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes* and *Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes*, discuss possible Bristol Bay Board of Fisheries, and Southwest Region Board of Game proposals to submit and have an election of officers.

Members Present on March 7th: George Alexie, Gary Nielsen, Jim Tilly, Senafont Shugak, Gregory Anelon and Lyle Wilder

Weather prevented the biologists from King Salmon and Dillingham from travelling, as well as Randy Alvarez, Chair, so it was determined to postpone the meeting until tomorrow. Chuck McCallum and Sherry Wright were able to arrive from Anchorage and stayed for the following day's meeting. Lyle flew George, Gary, Jim, and Senafont home with plans to pick them up for tomorrow's meeting.

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Meeting called to order at 11:05 am at the Newhalen Teen Center.

Members Present: Senafont Shugak – Pedro Bay; Robert Tracey Nondalton; Gary Nielsen – Kokhanok; Jim Tilly – Pope Vanoy (Und.); Wassie Balluta, Jr – Newhalen; Randy Alvarez – Iguigig; Thomas “Tinny” Hedlund – Undesignated; Lyle Wilder – Port Alsworth (Und.)

ADF&G Staff Present: Meg Riley, Slim Morstad, Sherry Wright

Public Present: Ken Taylor and Steve Carter, Pebble Partnership, Chuck McCallum, Lake & Peninsula Borough, Evelyn Anelon, Andrew Wassillie, Carl Balluta

Tinny moved to seat the new members. Lyle 2nd. Motion carried.

Ken Taylor provided a Powerpoint presentation regarding Ken Taylor on the Caribou and the Rainbow Trout radio telemetry tagging studies conducted by Pebble Partnership. Site fidelity of the rainbow was a topic of discussion. Mulchatna Caribou range and size information was presented. Moose survey slides were missing from the report, so Ken gave that information verbally. Moose survey area was three drainages from Newhalen River to Pedro Bay. Ken will provide the presentation on a disk so Sherry can email it to committee members.

Elections of officers had the following results: Chair – Randy Alvarez ; Vice Chair – Lyle Wilder ; Secretary – Jim Tilly. Motion by Tinny to retain current slate of officers. 2nd by Gary Nielsen. Motion carried.

Chuck McCallum, Lake & Peninsula Borough, was available to provide information and came to remind the committee he will be attending the Board of Fisheries meetings and can offer

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assistance before and during the meetings. Discussion of the possibility of financial assistance by the Borough for travel for AC members to the Board meetings coming up next year was held.

December 4-12, 2012 [9 days]	BOF Bristol Bay Finfish	Naknek Bristol Bay Borough School	Nov. 19, 2012
Feb. 26-Mar. 3, 2013 [6 days]	BOF Alaska Peninsula/ Aleutian Islands Finfish	Anchorage Sheraton Hotel	Feb. 12, 2013
February 8 - 15, 2013 [8 days]	BOG Central /Southwest (Region IV) ACR deadline December 7 (60 days prior)	Wasilla (location to be determined)	January 25, 2013

Meghan Riley brought game population information to the committee (she will email her report for distribution). Boundary issues can be resolved by department discretionary authority.

Southwest Region Board of Game proposal discussion

Discussion of closing the community brown bear regulation for Pedro Bay or reducing the area. Committee members were not agreeable to changing the entire regulation everywhere, because some of the communities are using the community harvest regulation. One member is concerned about people encroaching on his guide area and also taking a bear that is on a spawning stream is not harvesting a DLP bear. Part of the purpose of the regulation was also to liberalize the season.

Reducing the area for community harvest of brown bear Pedro Bay to one mile was suggested as a proposal. 2nd by Tinny. Jim Tilly will write up the proposal. Motion carried with one abstention (Shugak).

Katmai National Park brown bear guide concession areas are being revised. Ralph Moore contacted Randy about AC comments on this issue. Local guides from around the lake should be able to have that concession. The paperwork (prospectus) is too complicated to complete.

Tinny moved to make a proposal to change brown bear non resident bag limit to one per year in 9B. Bob Tracey 2nd. Motion carried unanimously.

Gary moved to extend the caribou season to the end of March because they are better in a better location and travel is more amenable. 2nd by SJ Shugak. Motion carried.

Slim Morstad was available to answer questions. One of the questions was about Naknek/Kvichak opener – if there were plans to change, since the minimum escapement has not been met. Prefer the opener happens when they announce the opener, rather than a few days later. Genetic studies are available online that identify the fish runs and where they are going. How is the Wassip study going to be used for Bristol Bay and Area M? The information can be used in management for Bristol Bay, but there are no plans to draw anymore lines in the Naknek district – that would be a Board issue. The 2008 Fishery Management report for the Bristol Bay board cycle includes information about run strength, genetic reports, etc. Question about how many fish go up Talarik River? Surveys are intermittent. Coho and chum predictions were not available.

Bristol Bay Board of Fisheries proposal discussion

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Would like to see a management plan that utilizes the Wassip plan to identify and allow harvest of the fish where the fish are going.

In the drift gillnet fishery allow stacking two permits. Legislators allow a person to own two permits, but BOF doesn't allow a fisherman to fish two permits. Most people that are going to double up would be non-local. Either allow to fish them, or don't allow a person to own two permits. The purpose behind it was to lower the number of vessels on the water and that is working. Over half of the permits have gone to outside interests.

Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes and Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes – comments are being received by members of the public on this issue.

Committee will hold a meeting tentatively the end of October in King Salmon to review and prepare comments on the proposals for this region.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.