

**Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee**  
**November 2, 2022**  
**Zoom meeting**

I. Call to Order: 17:13 pm AKT by Tracy Vrem

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

Mike Enright

Timothy Enright

Eddie Clark

Kim Rice

Catie Bursch

Tracey Vrem

John Christiansen Jr

Mary West

Jordan Dyer

Members Absent

-Brian Cato-excused

-Mitch Seybert- excused

-Gerald Olson- excused

-Jimmy Christiansen

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: Seven (9 members at roll call)

List of User Groups Present: Commercial fishing, Subsistence fishing, Subsistence Hunting, Guided hunting.

III. Approval of Agenda:

Approved by Eddie Clark, seconded by Tracy Vrem. Adding Jon Clouse to agenda.  
All in favor.

IV. Approval of Minutes from 4/7/22:

Approved by Catie Bursch, seconded by Eddie Clark. No discussion. All in favor. Moved to adopt minutes.

V. Introductions

Fish and Game Staff Present:

Taryn O'Connor-Brito, Boards Support Southwest Region Coordinator  
Lee Borden ADFG BB Sports fish  
Aaron Tiernen ADFG BB Egegik/Ugashik Com fish  
Amy Vande Voort. BB Wildlife ADFG

Guests Present:

Chuck McCallum – Lake and Penn borough fish advisor  
Jon Clouse – SW Region School District  
Laura Zimin

VI. Elections for three undesignated seats with terms that expired June 30, 2022

Tracey Vrem nominated Catie Bursch, seconded by Maurice Enright  
Mary West nominated Brian Cato, seconded by Eddie Clark  
Tracey Vrem nominated Tim Enright, seconded by  
Eddie made motion to close the floor for nominations. Tracey Vrem seconded.  
Unanimous consent achieved to select the three nominees.

\*Jimmy Christiansen replaced Gerda Kosbruk as Port Heiden community representative between the last meeting and this meeting. \*

VII. Updates

-Lee Borden, ADFG - Kings in Nushagak cut bag limits in half last summer due to sharp decline.

-Aaron Tiernen ADFG- 79 million bay wide run total. Forecast not out quite yet for 2023. Kings and chum in smaller numbers. Discussion about how warmer habitats may have increased run size.... warmer winters, less ice results in more smolt. Also, higher escapement goals played a part.

VIII. Public Comments

– Jon Clouse reporting on Com Fish skills camp with SW Region School District. They would like to apply for Educational Fishing permit through CFEC again for 2023. Jon is asking for a letter of approval from the LBBAC to go to CFEC. Eddie Clark made motion for Catie Bursch to write this letter of approval. seconded by Eddie Clark. Vote was taken to approve a deputy to sign letter. Unanimous approval.

Note on vote counts:

Proposals not taken in order; votes count of 8 excluded John Christiansen who had to leave the meeting early. Vote counts of 7 excluded John Christiansen and Jordan Dyer who had to step away for part of the meeting. No abstentions.

IX. New Business:

I. Board of Fish Bristol Bay Finfish proposals (see table)

## Alaska Board of Fisheries: Bristol Bay Proposals

November 29 – December 3, 2022 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support/ Support as amended/ Oppose/No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (pros & cons), Voting Notes, Amendments
<p><i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i></p>			
<a href="#"><u>15</u></a>	Allow use of small fishwheels to harvest salmon for subsistence purposes in the Ugashik Bay, Ugashik River, and Dago Creek drainages		
Support	9	0	<p>Motion made to adopt proposal by Tracey Vrem. Seconded by Eddie Clark.</p> <p>Discussion included the fact that you could select the fish you kept for subsistence with a live box, where a gillnet is harder to be selective. Might be hard to do fish wheel on mudflats</p>
<a href="#"><u>16</u></a>	Repeal requirement that subsistence salmon fishing permits for the Naknek River Drainage may only be obtained at the King Salmon office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.		
Support	9	0	<p>Motion to adopt by Eddie Clark. Seconded by Tracy Vrem.</p> <p>Can be hard to get permits in person. Offices seem to be short-handed.</p>
<a href="#"><u>17</u></a>	Limit guided angler access to sport fishing in a section of the Naknek River.		
Support	9	0	<p>Motion to adopt by Eddie Clark. Seconded by Tracy Vrem.</p> <p>Looking out for the longevity of the Rainbows. Getting to be too much pressure on the river.</p>
<a href="#"><u>18</u></a>	Prohibit the use of salmon eggs for sport fishing.		
Support	9	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark. Mary West seconded. Vote taken.</p> <p>Don't want fish to swallow egg sac and get the hook down deep in fish and hard to get hook out.</p>
<a href="#"><u>21</u></a>	Prohibit harvest of rainbow trout by nonresident anglers in a section of the Naknek river drainage.		

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Support	8	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark. Tim Enright seconded.</p> <p>It would be nice to keep rainbows in good shape on the Naknek.</p>
<a href="#"><u>22</u></a>	Close Big Creek to sport fishing for salmon.		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark. Mary West seconded.</p> <p>A lot of boats are up in that creek and it has been taking a hit.</p>
<a href="#"><u>23</u></a>	Allow retention of king salmon less than 20 inches in length in Big Creek.		
Oppose	0	8	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark, seconded by Tracey Vrem</p> <p>If there is an allowance to keep small kings, people will be catching the larger kings too.</p>
<a href="#"><u>24</u></a>	Reduce king salmon bag and possession limits and prohibit harvest of female king salmon in the Naknek River drainage.		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark. Seconded by Catie Bursch.</p> <p>We need to do as much as we can to stay ahead of the game to try and keep our kings.</p>
<a href="#"><u>25</u></a>	Reduce king salmon bag and possession limits and prohibit harvest of female king salmon in the Naknek River drainage.		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Catie Bursch. Seconded by Mary West.</p> <p>We need to do as much as we can to stay ahead of the game to try and keep our kings.</p>
<a href="#"><u>26</u></a>	Close tributaries and upper section of the Naknek River to sport fishing for king salmon.		

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Support	8	0	Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark, seconded by Tim Enright.
<a href="#">27</a>	Create a nonresident annual limit for coho salmon in the Naknek River drainage.		
Support	8	0	Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark, seconded by Tim Enright.  Bag limits don't need to be so large.
<a href="#">30</a>	Create a youth-only sport fishery in the Naknek River drainage.		
Support	7	0	Motion to adopt this proposal by Catie Bursch, Seconded by Mary West.
<a href="#">31</a>	Require reporting of king salmon harvest in guided sport fisheries and commercial fisheries in Bristol Bay.		
Oppose	1	8	Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark, seconded by Tim Enright. Commercial fishermen already are assigned to report king salmon on their fish tickets.
<a href="#">32</a>	Require reporting of king salmon harvest in guided sport fisheries and commercial fisheries in Bristol Bay.		
Oppose	0	9	Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark, seconded by Tim Enright. Unanimously opposed. Commercial fishermen already are assigned to report king salmon on their fish tickets.
<a href="#">33</a>	Increase maximum offshore operation distance for set gillnets in Ugashik District.		

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Oppose	0	7	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Maurice Enright, seconded by Catie Bursch.</p> <p>Could be navigational hazard with nets going farther across the river channel. Many sites around the Bay go dry on low tides. Hard to keep moving distances as sand/mud bars change locations from season to season.</p>
<a href="#">34</a>	Increase minimum distance between units of drift and set gillnet gear in the Ugashik District.		
Support	7	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Catie Bursch, Seconded by Eddie Clark.</p> <p>We feel this could be amended to be two separate proposals. One dealing with the 1000' distance and one dealing with the navigational waters.</p>
<a href="#">35</a>	Increase minimum distance between units set and drift gillnet gear.		
Support	8	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark. Seconded by Mary West.</p>
<a href="#">36</a>	Limit the length of drift gillnet tows to 100 feet.		
Support	6	1	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Catie Bursch seconded by Mary West.</p>
<a href="#">37</a>	Limit the length of drift gillnet tows to 100 feet.		
Support	6	1	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Jordan Dyer, seconded by Catie Bursch</p>
<a href="#">38</a>	Limit the length of drift gillnet tows to 25 fathoms.		
Support	7	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Jordan Dyer seconded by Mary West</p>
<a href="#">39</a>	Prohibit placement of set gillnet gear on the shore fishery lease site of another set gillnet permit holder.		

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Oppose	1	6	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark, seconded by Tracey Vrem.</p> <p>When set net sites are close together it is not unheard of for anchoring devices to be used on neighboring shore fisheries lease plats. Every district is different, and we understand this proposal is coming from Egegik. We found that this proposal was not clear on exactly what gear could or could not cross into the neighboring platt.</p>
<a href="#">42</a>	Repeal provisions allowing operation of 200 fathoms of drift gillnet from a vessel with two CFEC permit holders onboard.		
Support	7	0	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Catie Bursch, seconded by Eddie Clark.</p> <p>No need to have D permits if we are not in economic hard times. We also hope this will help the drain of permits out of the state and local area.</p>
<a href="#">43</a>	Repeal provisions allowing operation of 200 fathoms of drift gillnet from a vessel with two CFEC permit holders onboard.		
Support	7	0	see comments on Proposal 42
<a href="#">44</a>	Review provisions allowing operation of 200 fathoms of drift gillnet from a vessel with two CFEC permit holders onboard.		
Support	7	0	see comments on Proposal 42
<a href="#">45</a>	Provide drift gillnet vessels with a single permit holder onboard more fishing opportunity per opening than vessels with two permit holders onboard.		
Oppose	0	7	Motion to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark seconded by Tracey Vrem
<a href="#">46</a>	Allow permit stacking in the Bristol Bay commercial salmon drift gillnet fishery.		
Oppose	0	7	Motion made to adopt this proposal and proposal 47 by Eddie Clark, seconded by Tracey Vrem.
<a href="#">47</a>	Allow permit stacking in the Bristol Bay commercial salmon drift gillnet fishery.		

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Oppose	0	7	See comments on Proposal 46.
<a href="#">49</a>	Reestablish a General District Salmon Management Plan.		
Oppose	0	7	<p>Motion to adopt this proposal by Jordan Dyer, seconded by Eddie Clark.</p> <p>Prop 49-54 Bristol Bay salmon management is based on a terminal fishery. Also, there are other species that will be affected besides sockeye so can't assume they are getting to spawning grounds.</p>
<a href="#">50</a>	Reestablish a General District Salmon Management Plan.		
Oppose	0	7	See comments for Proposal 49
<a href="#">51</a>	Reestablish a General District Salmon Management Plan.		
Oppose	0	7	See comments for Proposal 49
<a href="#">52</a>	Reestablish a General District Salmon Management Plan.		
Oppose	0	7	See comments for Proposal 49
<a href="#">53</a>	Reestablish a General District Salmon Management Plan.		
Oppose	0	7	See comments for Proposal 49
<a href="#">54</a>	Adopt an Eastside Bristol Bay late-season management plan.		
Oppose	0	7	
<a href="#">59</a>	Repeal provisions directing the department to avoid continuous fishing with set gillnet gear in the Egegik District.		
Oppose	0	7	<p>Motion made to adopt this proposal by Eddie Clark seconded by Catie Bursch</p> <p>Fish do not get up into the inner district because the fishery is so efficient. Need some gaps for escapement.</p>

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<a href="#">60</a>	Align the Ugashik District fall fishing schedule with the Naknek-Kvichak District and Egegik District fall fishing schedules.		
Support	7	0	Motion made to adopt this proposal by Catie Bursch seconded by Jordan Dyer  Schedule will be aligned with other districts. More fishing time if markets and opportunity align.
<a href="#">61</a>	Require reporting of king salmon harvest by size class on fish tickets.		
			Brief discussion, no action

II. Board of Game proposal 187 (Brown Bear tag fee exemption)

Motion made to adopt proposal #187 by Mary West seconded by Eddie Clark  
Vote was taken. 7 support. 0 opposed. Approved unanimously.

X. Misc. Business:

Motion to have Tracey Vrem approve the minutes. Motion made by Eddie Clark, seconded by Jordan Dyer. Unanimously approved.  
Discuss date and agenda for next meeting

XI. Adjournment: 22:58 pm

Minutes Recorded By: Catie Bursch  
Minutes Approved By: Tracy Vrem  
Date: 11/3/22