

Alaska Department of Fish and Game



Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee Teleconference Announcement

The Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee will
meet on **Wednesday, February 1st beginning at 3:30 PM**
Via Teleconference.

CALL 1(888)475-4499 Meeting ID: 885 8991 8685 Pass code: 1
Or Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88589918685?pwd=SFNmQUlVTOtRaHlDaVYrN3l5bzJVQT09>

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss preparation for Board of Fisheries Alaska Peninsula/Aluetian Island/Chignik Finfish meeting, , and other fishing, hunting, and trapping and Advisory Committee business or concerns as necessary.

The Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee is a collection of community members from all user groups that come together, discuss Fish and Game issues and recommend changes to current regulations. They also represent their community before the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game at board meetings.

This meeting is open to the public.

For more information contact:

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Western Regional Coordinator | Boards Support Section
(907) 543-2931 | savannah.hollingworth@alaska.gov

Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday February 1st, 2023 Beginning at 3:00 PM

Draft Agenda

By Phone: 1(888)475-4499 Meeting ID: 885 8991 8685 Passcode: 1

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88589918685?pwd=SFNmQUIvT0tRaHlDaVYrN3l5bzJVQT09>

Chair: David K Carl.

- I. Call to order: Chair, David K Carl Time:
- II. Invocation/ Moment of Silence
- III. Welcome and Introductions: Chair, David Carl

a. Roll Call:

	<u>Kipnuk</u> David Carl	<u>Chevak</u> Stan Atchak	<u>Chefornak</u> Tommy Kusaiak	<u>Goodnews</u> <u>Bay</u> Peter Julius	<u>Kwigillingok</u> Johnny Friend	<u>Newtok</u> Stanley Tom	<u>Nightmute</u> Stanley Anthony
By Teleconference							
Absent							
Abs/Excused							
	<u>Quinhaga</u> <u>k</u> Jaqueline Cleveland	<u>Tununak</u> Susie Walter	<u>Undesignated</u> Leo Moses Jr.	<u>ALTERNATE</u> <u>Mekoryuk</u> Samson Weston	<u>ALTERNATE</u> <u>Platinum</u> John Samuelson	<u>Toksook Bay</u> Joe Asuluk Jr. or Alternate	<u>Kongiginak</u> No representation
By Teleconference							
Absent							
Abs/Excused							

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8 *7

*Due to current membership only 7 is needed to reach quorum, 13 seated members

b. Staff, Agency, and Public introductions

- IV. Approval of Agenda:
- V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From November 3rd, 2022
- VI. Reports

a. Chair's report

b. ADF&G

i. Board Support Section Reports

1. Summary of Board of Fisheries: Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim Meeting

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Old Business

a. Letter to DOA commissioner regarding per diem status

IX. New Business

a. Board of Fisheries: South Alaska Peninsula Salmon June Management Plan proposals refresher

b. Preparation and planning for Board of Fisheries meeting and testimony

X. Representative elected to attend board meeting

- a. In order with alternates:
 - i. Jacqueline Cleveland
 - ii. David K Carl
 - iii. Johnny Friend
 - iv. Susie Walter
- XI. Set next meeting date
- XII. Other
- XIII. Adjourn

Minutes Recorded By: _____

Minutes Approved By: _____

Date: _____

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Membership Roster

Name	Title	Designated Seat	Term Expiration
Tommy Kusaiak		Chefornak	06/2019
Vacant		Chefornak alternate	
Stan M Atchak	Secretary	Chevak	06/2024
Richard B. Slats		Chevak Alternate	06/2019
Peter Julius		Goodnews Bay	06/2019
Vacant		Goodnews Bay alternate	
David K. Carl	Chair	Kipnuk	06/2024
Jimmie Paul		Kipnuk Alternate	06/2019
Vacant		Kongiganak	06/2019
Vacant		Kongiganak alternate	
Johnny Friend		Kwigillingok	06/2022
Vacant		Kwigillingok alternate	
Baylen Toots		Mekoryuk	06/2022
Samson Weston		Mekoryuk Alternate	06/2022
Stanley Tom		Newtok	06/2020
George Tom		Newtok Alternate	06/2020
Stanley Anthony		Nightmute	06/2019
John White		Nightmute Alternate	06/2019
Janet Bavilla		Platinum	06/2025
John Samuel		Platinum Alternate	06/2025
Jacqueline Cleveland	Vice-Chair	Quinhagak	06/2024
Paul Cleveland		Quinhagak Alternate	06/2024
Joe Asuluk Sr.		Toksook Bay	06/2025
Vacant		Toksook Bay Alternate	06/2020
Susie Walter		Tununak	06/2021
Anthony T. Angiak		Tununak Alternate	06/2021
Leo Moses Jr.		Undesignated	06/2022
Vacant		Undesignated	06/2022

13 Designated Seats + 2 Undesignated Seats, 15 Seats total

Currently only 13 filled seats; 7 needed for quorum

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

CBSA called to order by David Carl, Chairman @ 9:15am. David Carl asked if he was still the acting chairman to Savannah Hollingworth. She said it should be changed to Chairman of Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee.

David Carl told the group that if any of the members have something to say, they should say now.

Stan Atchak made a roll call, and there was 11 present and about 3 absent . 2 of the members were on tele-conference. The quorum was established.

	<u>Kipnuk</u> David Carl	<u>Chevak</u> Stan Atchak	<u>Chefornak</u> Tommy Kusaiak	<u>Goodnews Bay</u> Peter Julius	<u>Kwigillingok</u> Johnny Friend	<u>Newtok</u> Stanley Tom	<u>Nightmute</u> Stanley Anthony
Present	X	X	X		X	11/3	X
By Teleconference						11/4	
Absent				X			
Abs/Excused							
	<u>Quinhagak</u> Jaqueline Cleveland	<u>Tununak</u> Susie Walter	<u>Undesignated</u> Leo Moses Jr.	<u>ALTERNATE</u> <u>Mekoryuk</u> Samson Weston	<u>ALTERNATE</u> <u>Platinum</u> John Samuel	<u>ALTERNATE</u> <u>Toksook Bay</u> Simeon Moses	<u>Kongiginak</u> No representatio n
Present	X	X		X		X	
By Teleconference					X		
Absent			X				
Abs/Excused							

Stan Atchak read the agenda for the past meeting. Jackie Cleveland asked if some items were missing from the agenda.

She wanted to add the Fishery Board reports. Could put on the agenda.

Jackie Cleveland made a motion to add the Fish Board to the agenda, seconded by Simeon Moses. Motion passed to accept the agenda with additions.

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

Chairman David Carl explained that we could still talk in our native language since we have an interpreter with us.

Stan Atchak and Jackie Cleveland read the last minutes of 2/22-23/2022 line by line. Susie

Walter made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Jackie Cleveland. Motion passed.

David Carl reported about the hardships that we had in our villages. He talked about the CBS AC meeting stipend that was late in coming to us.

Jackie Cleveland reported that the king salmon were smaller, and chums were good but, not enough to store them in the freezers.

Aerial surveys were conducted by F&G on the salmon around the Quinhagak area. The pikes are invasive on the Kanektok river are many and the trouts are getting less because of them.

Jackie Cleveland reported that they were successful in hunting moose this year. The other years there were not much moose around their area.

She talked about the erosion happening in Quinhagak. She said there has been more erosion lately.

Chairman David Carl asked and responded by stating about the subsistence activities in their villages. He said the subsistence will not stop and will continue on fish and game at the villages.

The subsistence fishing is different nowadays like the tomcods are fewer than the other years.

Also, this is happening to the subsistence salmon we harvest. He suspects the climate change is the main reason for the changes.

Susie Walters reported that a good number of herring fish came along with the other different fish. They stored enough subsistence fish for the winter. She said the tomcods are slowly coming back. The berries were abundant along the coast.

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

The moose hunters were successful during their annual hunting. They caught the moose around their villages and didn't go to further places like they used to in the past.

Tommy Kusaia stated that he was cautious about subsistence hunting because of being regulated like restricted gathering for the villages.

Stanley Tom reported the subsistence on salmon wasn't very good at their villages. The ones that always go fishing got enough and the ones that didn't go didn't get enough.

Simeon Moses agreed with Stanley Tom's report.

Sam Weston, from Mekoryuk stated that salmon fishing was not plentiful during the summer.

Not too many salmon fish came around. He said that there are about 6 active fishing camps on the island and subsistence fishing has been not good for about 3 years.

Introductions: Savannah Hollingworth, Board Support Section from Fish & Game.

15 minutes recess.

Fisheries Report for the 2022 Fishing Season.

Yukon Report: Deena Jones, Summer Season Fish & Game Manager,

Sonar at Pilot Station for salmon count was less than 50,000, runs were low this year. The other salmon species were low on counting this year. The fishing for subsistence salmon was closed on June 2, 2022 for the Coastal villages and other Lower Yukon areas to preserve the declining salmon fish. The fishermen were told to use 4 inch or less to target fish other than salmon fish.

Fall chum was the 3rd lowest run than the other years. The other salmon species were record low on returning to our areas.

Holly Carol spoke about the Federal Qualified users information.

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

Nick Smith for the Kuskokwim Fisheries another low run and it was a record low on the chum salmon. Had the lowest on the head waters of Kuskokwim was the lowest on the record.

On Quinhagak area there was no commercial fisheries this year.

The question on proposal to allow more subsistence gear around their area. Proposal 91 on to include different fishing methods on the salmon fishing.

Jackie Cleveland asked if there will be more surveys other than aerial surveys. They will do different methods to conduct surveys and report to the villagers about their findings.

Stan Atchak asked F&G about the Coastal villages on the forecast for the coming fishing season.

He asked if the subsistence salmon fishing forecast for the coming season. Fish & Game responded that the fishing subsistence forecast will be available around April or May 2023 for the coming season.

Susie Walters asked if the beavers have an effect on the spawning salmon. Fish & Game responded that the beavers are getting more and more around our area and they do have some effect on the spawning. Fish & Game responded that the salmon and beavers have been living together for longtime.

John Samuel said that they haven't had commercial fishing for three summers. He said there was a spike in salmon numbers and he stated that when the water is low many salmon don't go up to the spawning grounds. For the commercial fishing there has not been a commercial fish buyer since 2015.

Johnny Friend stated that after the warm summer we had, the salmon and other fish like tomcods were dying. The climate affects the fish species which are dying in our areas.

12:05 LUNCH BREAK

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

Reconvene @1:48pm

Savannah Hollingworth report about the Advisory Comm. Regulation manual book. About the jurisdiction of the areas. She talked about the drug and alcohol during the meetings. The violators will be asked to leave immediately and reimburse the money spend before they could attend the meetings again.

The department staff will handle the drug or alcohol problem and solve it. The Boards Support in Juneau will ask the person to pay back the money used for the person. There are three conditions that have to be met before the person could attend the meetings.

David Carl stated that the persons that were asked to pay back haven't done yet.

Elections: Most of the Board's terms are up to date or outdated. Savannah Hollingworth encourages the communities to do elections for the Advisory Committees during the regular village elections.

Jackie Cleveland stated that the Tribal Elections need to go with the regular elections that goes on the villages. The voter turn-out might be low if they are electing a seat that they never heard of before.

Tommy Kusaik suggested the women on the board don't know much about the fishing and the bay how they are. The men know more about the situations about fishing and bays because they are the ones that go out and fish.

Johnny Friend stated that the women do the fishing in other areas and are dependable to be on the Boards. He supports the women because they have many talents and are smart to carry the duties of being a board member.

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

Jackie Cleveland defended herself and co-workers about them being resourceful and having lots of knowledge about the environment of villages.

Mr. Weston stated that he supports the non-discriminations of any sex to be on the board.

Stan Atchak supports Mr. Weston saying that to be non-discriminate on who serves on the Boards. He said some women know more about the fishing and hunting than the other men in the villages. He supports the women to be on the board or any other committees.

Johnny Friend talks about the women being a lot helpful than some of the men. He supports the non-discrimination of the people that sits on the boards or other groups.

Susie Walters stated that she grew up with her grandparents and worked on the subsistence catch. If you prepare the subsistence catches properly they will last for long time.

Savannah Hollingworth stated that all the Advisory meetings are public and open to be productive. They have a rule to non-discriminate the people.

Stan Atchak wanted to add Sargent-At-Arms to control the meeting, and to reduce the “story tellings”, and to have a smooth meeting. To control and keep off the people on “point of order”.

Canadian and Cackling Geese Discussions:

Last couple of years in lower 48 increased the bag limits and the geese population count got down.

In Alaska the daily bag limits got decreased. With the lower 48 bag limits got lower the geese increased. The avian flu got some of the geese which affects the populations decrease.

3:32 Break

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

Reconvene @3:50p

Open to Public Comment.

MS. Terese Schomogyi from the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission reported on the Kuskokwim River Salmon Situation Report. There is salmon decline on the population.

57% of the fish were intercepted at the South Alaska Fishery. That is 1.2 million fish going to our area. This Commission is made up of several people from our area to work on the fish. They always meet, even during the fishing season.

The CBSAC talked about getting a full per-diem for the meetings and to talk to the Representatives for our area. This is because of the rising costs and inflation for our area.

Per-diem will continue if you are stuck until you go home.

The current for the per-diem payment is \$45.00 for travel, and \$60.00 for meeting.

David Carl & Jackie Cleveland will make a draft letter for the DOA Commissioner for a per diem increase to Paula R Vrana.

Proposal #80-Restrict subsistence king salmon in the middle and upper Yukon River.

Johnny Friend makes a motion for **No Action** on the proposal, seconded by Susie Walters.

Stan Atchak called for Question, All in favor for **No Action**, All in favor, passed for No Action.

Proposal #81

Johnny Friend made a motion to **accept the proposal**, seconded by Tommy Kusaiak. All in favor, motion passed.

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

Proposal #82-The nets without buoys are dangerous and Johnny Friend experienced during the summer. He supports the proposal.

Tommy Kusaia stated that when its windy or wavy the buoys are not very visible and the ropes needs to be longer.

Tommy Kusaia made a motion to **accept the proposal**, seconded by Johnny Friend. All in favor, motion passed.

Proposal #84-Repeal and readopt Yukon Area subsistence fishery lawful gear and gear specifications.

Susie Walter made a motion for **No Action** to the proposal, seconded by Johnny Friend. All in favor, motion passed.

Johnny Friend Tommy Kusaia made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Johnny Friend . All in favor, motion passed.

Adjourned @6:20pm. To resume tomorrow @ 8:30 am.

11/04/2022

CBSA meeting started @8:43am by Chairman David Carl. Roll call by Stan Atchak, with 8 present, and more coming. 10 members present when all had arrived.

Proposal#85-Modify Yukon Area personal Use Salmon fishery specifications gear types and gillnet mesh size for during time of salmon conservations.

David Carl asked the board if we were able to skip some of the proposals.

Chairman appointed the Vice-Chair Jackie to present the proposals.

The proposal would reduce the 7.5 inch to 6 inch and 4 inch or smaller.

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David Carl stated that with a smaller mesh there is always a bycatch on other salmon fish and other fish.

Johnny Friend made a comment about the proposal to preserve endangered salmon on the Kuskokwim and Yukon rivers. He wanted the F&G talk with the elders from our area.

David Carl made a motion for **No Action**, seconded by Susie Walter, Question called by Johnny Friend, All in favor, motion passed.

Patrick Jones, F&G Wildlife Conservation, for the Wildlife Division.

Last winter they didn't conduct aerial survey, he reported that there are about 3,000 moose on the Kuskokwim area.

Yukon have 24,000 moose and still growing. Bulls and cow ratio were said. 1000 moose on the Yukon and want the hunters to get 4,000. The count is from the mouth of Yukon to around Russian Mission. From Mt. Village down river there are about 12,000 moose.

On the Kuskokwim he reported that most of the hunters had success.

Musk Ox on Nunivak and Nelson Island. Nunivak trophy hunt with 90 muskox.

57 permits will be issued for the Nelson Island.

Mulchatna Caribou is about 12,000. Will be closed for several years to get the population up.

They collared about 150 caribou. The wolves, bears, and eagles kill the caribou. The eagles kill the young ones for food.

Predator control on bears and wolves are done where the caribou calving area using helicopters. All of the Advisory Committees approved the predator control on the calving area.

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Johnny Friend made a comment on the predator control and the caribou where the climate is affecting the young caribou. Can't do predator control on the Federal Land only on the State lands.

Proposal#178-To reauthorize antlerless moose on the Unit 18 area except the Kuskokwim. The Fish & Game wants us to support this proposal because there are too many moose around the Yukon area. This will help preserve the vegetation from depletion from too many moose.

Jackie Cleveland. asked if this proposal will become law and not to be voted every year. Fish & Game said "no" because we will have to look on this every year.

Tommy Kusaia made a motion to **support the proposal**, seconded by Johnny Friend. All in favor, **motion passed**.

Proposal#188-For the brown bear to exempt the \$25.00 tag fees. It will be easier for the Fish & Game to have it without the brown bear tags for the hunters.

Tommy Kusaia made a motion to **support the proposal**, seconded by Johnny Friend. All in favor, **motion passed**.

David Carl asked what will happen on the caribou hunt. The population is about 12.000 and not growing. The hunt will not likely to happen for few years or more.

The musk ox are spread all over and the ones in the Nome area are slowly coming time.

There is about 200 muskox on the mainland and when they reach 300 will probably have a small open hunt.

The proposals for hunting and trapping is coming for call for proposals, if anyone wants to change the trapping regulations.

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Proposal#86-Require retention of sport caught salmon on the Yukon river. For the sport fish people to keep the salmon when they are fishing once they reach their bag limits.

Stanley Tom made a motion for **No Action** the proposal, seconded by Simeon Moses. All in favor, motion passed.

Proposal#87-Define eel stick to be added the gear type for the Yukon subsistence.

Johnny Friend made a motion to **support the proposal**, seconded by Susie Walter. Question called. All in favor, motion passed.

Proposal#88-Repeal and replace Yukon area commercial salmon fishing gear specifications.

Tommy Kusaia made a motion for **support** the proposal, seconded by Johnny Friend. All in favor, motion passed. The **amend** to take off the 8-inch mesh size.

Proposal#89-Modify Yukon Area commercial dip net gear operations in the commercial fishery to include a single rigid handle with a single line attached.

Simeon Moses made a motion for **Support** the proposal, seconded by Stanley Tom. All in favor, motion passed.

Proposal#90- Create a Tier II subsistence king salmon fishery in Kuskokwim River.

Johnny Friend made a motion to **oppose** the proposal. All in favor, motion passed. We do not want to make things more difficult for future generations.

Proposal#91- Modify Kuskokwim Area Lawful gear and gear specifications and operation to provide greater opportunity to harvest salmon other than king salmon, during times of salmon conservation.

Stanley Tom made a motion to take no action, seconded by Simeon Moses. We do not feel that the river is ours to make these decisions.

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Proposal#92- Allow more subsistence fishing around commercial fishing periods.

John Samuel said less time restrictions would be good because we hardly have commercial fishing anymore. Simeon Moses made a motion to **Support** Proposal #92, 2nd by Johnny Friend, **motion passed.**

Proposal#94- Close sport fishing for chum salmon to nonresidents in the Kanektok River from June 1st-June 30th.

Jackie Cleveland, from Quinhagak, said that the end date should have been June 30. She suggests supporting this proposal with an amendment that the dates are changed to June 1st-June 30th. Johnny Friend made a motion to **support as amended**, 2nd by Simeon Moses. Quinhagak knows their village and what happens there, so we should support them. **Motion passes.**

Proposal#95- When a federal special action is in effect under ANILCA Title VIII the Alaska Department of Fish and Game would not provide set gillnet fishing periods prior to June 12 when the projected escapement is within the drainage wide escapement goal range. To avoid confusion and political tensions.

Motion made by Johnny Friend to **support** Proposal#95, second by Tommy Kusaiak. **Motion passes.**

Proposal#96- When a federal special action or emergency special action is in effect under ANILCA Title VIII the Alaska Department of Fish and Game would not provide directed king salmon fishing periods after June 11th when the projected escapement is within the drainage wide escapement goal range.

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Motion made by Susie Walter to **support** Proposal #96, seconded by Johnny Friend. **Motion passed.**

Proposal#97- Establish when a commercial gillnet permit holder in Kuskokwim Area may use dip net and beach seine gear to commercially harvest salmon and standardize Kuskokwim Area dipnet gear specifications and operation.

Beach seines catch everything, and this proposal does not seem like a conservation effort, but dipnet is better conservation. We are all from the coast, may be in the river it is experienced differently. It is hard to decide on this proposal because there are so many parts and different gear. A motion was made to **support the proposal with an amendment to not include beach seines** by Stanley, seconded by Johnny Friend. **Motion passed.**

Proposal#165- Prohibit compensation for guide services in subsistence fisheries.

David Carl makes a motion to **support** Proposal 165, seconded by Johnny Friend. **Motion passed.**

Proposal# 133 and Proposal# 134 – No Action

PROPOSAL#135- Amend the South Unimak and Shumigan Island June management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time and area for purse seine gear.

Susie Walters made a motion for **No Action** on the proposal, seconded by David Carl. All in favor, **motion passed.**

Proposal#136- Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to implement a chum salmon harvest cap to reduce commercial fishing time.

Johnny Friend made a **motion to support** the proposal, seconded by Simeon Moses. All in favor, **motion passed.**

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Proposal#137-Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Island June Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time.

Johnny Friend made a **motion to support** on the proposal, seconded by Tommy Kusaia. All in favor, **motion passed**.

Proposal#138-Amend

Simeon Moses made a **motion to support** on the proposal, seconded by Susie Walters. All in favor, **motion passed**.

Proposal#139-Recommended for no action by the other group

Proposal #140- Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time.

Motion made by Johnny Friend to **support** proposal #140, seconded by Susie Walter. **Motion passed**.

Proposal#141 & 142- No Action. Savannah Hollingworth asks the Committee to choose which meetings and who to send to them. She recommends having alternates since weather is sometimes a problem and there is no remote testimony. She talks about how the Board meetings work, comments, and dates. The group decides to send someone to the AYK and Area M meeting with 3 alternates each.

January 14th-18th Board of Fisheries: Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim meeting in Anchorage nominees: Samson Weston nominates Jackie Cleveland. Jackie declines the nomination. She is going to an NVK meeting. Samson Weston nominates David Carl. David accepts the nomination. John Samuel was nominated by Susie Walter. John declines. Jackie Cleveland nominates Johnny Friend. Johnny accepts. Jackie nominates Samson Weston, but Samson declines. Susie Walter

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee Meeting On 11/03/2022

nominates Stan Atchak, but he was not there to decline and accept since he had to go for his flight. He can decline later if he needs to since his nomination is for a 2nd alternate. Susie Walter nominates Stanley Tom.

Motion made to approve sending David Carl, with alternates Johnny Friend, Stan Atchak, then Stanley Tom to AYK Board of Fish meeting by Samson Weston, 2nd by Susie Walter. Motion carries.

February 20-25 – Area M meeting. Susie Walter nominates Jackie Cleveland, David Carl 2^{nds}. David Carl is nominated; Susie Walter nominates Johnny Friend. Susie Walter was nominated as the 3rd alternate. Susie Walter makes a motion to approve the nominations to go the Area M meeting, 2nd by Johnny Friend.

The next meeting date – Jackie Cleveland suggests a teleconference in late January or early February to prepare for the Area M meeting and to hear about the AYK meeting.

Stanley Tom makes a motion to approve a February 1st teleconference meeting date. David Carl seconded the motion. Approved by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM

BOARD MEETING PREP & RECOMMENDATIONS

Before the Board Meeting

Have the person representing your committee contact your regional coordinator at least two weeks prior if air travel will be required for your attendance.

NOTE: The representative must have written approval from the committee to attend the board meeting. This should be included in the meeting minutes.

Regional coordinator will make the travel arrangements through the State Travel office.

Get a copy of the **minutes** from the meetings during which your committee wrote, commented on, or took a vote on proposals for the particular board meeting. Be familiar with all proposals submitted by your committee and the actions your committee took on other proposals the board will be considering.

Plan your **testimony**. Remember that your testimony can only reflect what your committee said in their discussions. Be sure to address key issues of concern. Do not just read the minutes to the board (they should already have copies). The boards allow committee representatives 10 minutes to speak and often ask questions afterward.

The board meeting **agenda** and **roadmap** can be found on the back table or from your coordinator.

During the Board Meeting

Sign the advisory committee **sign-in sheet** which is kept at the table in the back of the room. You need to do this every day that you attend to validate your per diem claim.

Fill out a **blue card** and give it to the board's secretary. The blue cards are also kept at the table in the back of the room. If you wish to give personal testimony as well as advisory committee testimony, make a note of that on your card. Be sure to indicate if you want to go first or last. If you want to go in the order received, just turn in the card.

- Turn in Blue Card
 - By assigned time Usually by 10 am the day of public testimony
 - Chairman states
 - Signs around room
 - Found at back table
 - Fill out completely and legibly
 - Reference any written material
 - Written material turned in timely
 - AC members first or last, indicate it or let RC know
 - AC members may submit two cards, one for themselves and one for the AC. Indicate in which order you intend to testify, or if you would like testimonies separated from each other.
 - Time limits: 3 minutes (10 minutes for reps of ACs and RACs)
- Keep Testimony Clear and Concise

- Focus and prepare. Stick to the issues most important to you.
- Reference proposal titles, not just numbers.
- A good tip is to use the roadmap as a guide to help organize your thoughts.

Your committee's **minutes** are in the board workbooks. There is an Advisory Committee copy located on the back table. Look through the AC / RC portion to make sure your minutes are included. If not, the coordinator can make copies for the board using the minutes you brought and will give them back to you.

Review your testimony.

At the beginning of the testimony portion of the meeting the chairman of the board gives instructions about how and when to testify. **Listen** carefully and if you have questions ask your coordinator.

When you go up to **testify**, take your minutes and any other pertinent notes to the table with you. For the record, state your name and your advisory committee's name. Speak about the makeup of your AC (how many sport fishers, photographers, trappers, etc). You can use the AC committee roster for that information (based on the interests they have listed). Remember that at this time, you are speaking for the committee, not yourself.

If you have signed up to also provide personal testimony, be very clear that you will now be speaking on your own behalf. Stay at the table when you have finished testifying to answer any questions the board may have. The chairman will tell you when you may step down.

- Be involved
 - Read up
 - Material is located on the Back Table and is posted on line.
 - Stay at meeting to listen to Department Reports and other testimony.
 - Talk
 - Staff
 - Board members
 - To other members of the public
- Don't be intimidated to speak to board members
- they are very interested in hearing from you, which you will hear the chairman say repeatedly.
- You have local knowledge that they want to hear about to help them understand the impacts of proposals that are before them.
- If you are intimidated to strike up a conversation, you are more than welcome to ask me or another coordinator to introduce you.
- Just Remember
- Board members are human.
- They don't have every proposal and proposal number memorized.
- They may be frazzled, or overwhelmed, and they could be just as nervous to be speaking publicly as you are.
- Focus and respect are key components of building a rapport with a member.

- If you miss your call, there will be a second call usually following the next break.
- Make sure your microphone is turned on...
- (the glowing red light around the microphone indicates it is on)
- Speak clearly and concisely
- Introduce yourself.
- If you are representing an organization make note of that.
- If you have submitted written comments, cite your AC, PC or RC number for the board to reference.
- don't read from your submitted comments (unless you turned in a copy of your public testimony, which some folks do.) The board has the information that you submitted in front of them, so use your testimony time to amplify those issues that most concern you or your AC.
- Make sure to speak to those proposals your AC felt the strongest about by
- Summarizing the discussion behind the vote.
- Speaking to opposing views.
- Talking about solutions discussed by the AC.
- **Not effective;**
- Reading your minutes. The board already has those in front of them.
- Rattling off proposal numbers and a vote tally.
- The board wants to know why you liked or didn't like the proposal. This is your opportunity to provide the local perspective of the impacts that proposed regulatory changes would make on your region.
- Remember,
- Board members don't always come to the meetings familiar with the area, and they are looking to you for background information where they are considering making regulatory changes. You are the locally elected eyes and ears of the boards in each region of the state.
- Remember that:
- Your message is important, and the board needs to know what you have to say.
- Everyone gets nervous when they are speaking, including Board members.
- Most of the time, no one can tell. And when they can...so what, its ok to be nervous.
- If it starts to get away from you take a deep breath, and re focus.
- The best thing to do is to understand your anxiety patterns and address them ahead of time with things like practicing what you are going to say, or bringing a glass of water if you know your mouth gets dry...
- Again, bring your practice notes with you. If your mind goes blank you will have something to fall back on.
- Directly after testimony:
- When you see the red light, please stop. The chairman will stop you if he has to.
- Don't run away, the board might have questions for you. IF the board has questions, make the full use of their attention.
- If you have more information, you can submit an RC (10 page limit).
- Make the most of your time at the board meetings. If something is important you to, speak with board members at breaks during the meeting.
-

After the Board Meeting

A summary of actions will be posted on the web site, or available from the regional coordinator.

Be prepared to give a report to your committee at their next meeting.

General Recommendations for testimony before the Board of Fisheries

- **Advisory committees.** Remember, advisory committee recommendations must be developed at a meeting where the conditions of the Open Meetings Act (AS 44.62.310) were met. When providing public testimony, provide commentary and explain the committee's current discussion. Expressing minority opinions is helpful. Reading off proposal numbers and committee recommendations is difficult to follow; your written comments should cover this sort of summary.
- Give a short summary of your Advisory Committee, the make up and general idea of demographics or what it is like to live where you do and why these regulations are important to your community

Tips for comments.

- Identify proposal(s). Clearly state the proposal number you wish to discuss and if you support or oppose the proposal. If the comments support a modification in the proposal, indicate "support as amended" with the preferred amendment in writing.
- Commenting on more than one proposal. If making comments on more than one proposal, simply list the next proposal number followed by your comments. There is no need for separate pages or to submit multiple comments.
- Explain why. Help the board understand your rationale by identifying factors to take into account when acting on a proposal.
- Keep comments brief and clear. Board members are extremely busy. Clearly stating proposal numbers and one's position with supporting rationale will assist board members.
- Follow the requirements. Pages in excess of the page limit and comments not in the proper format will be discarded. Testimony greater than the allotted time will be cut short.
- The sooner the better. As a practical matter comments submitted after the board begins deliberations are likely to receive less consideration than comments submitted earlier.

Written Comment or RC recommendations

- Write clearly. Whether typed or handwritten, use dark ink and write legibly.
- Use the committee process for detailed comments. The board considers specific proposals, grouped by subject, during committees as a way to receive much greater detail from the participating public. Public testimony should be tailored to encompass major items of importance. Fine details may be reserved for committee work.
- Be polite. Inflammatory material may be excluded or redacted, and public testimony may be cut short.
- Advisory committees written recommendations should be submitted in the format prescribed by the board; boards staff can provide the right form. Recommendations should note the number of committee members in attendance as well as other

stakeholders in attendance during meetings.

Proposals to be addressed at the meeting and how the Central Bering Sea AC

voted:

- **Proposal#136**- Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to implement a chum salmon harvest cap to reduce commercial fishing time.
- Johnny Friend made a **motion to support** the proposal, seconded by Simeon Moses. All in favor, **motion passed**.
- **PROPOSAL 136**
- **5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.** Amend the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* to implement a chum salmon harvest cap to reduce commercial fishing time, as follows:
- ONC proposes that the Board of Fisheries amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, 5 AAC 09.365, to incorporate a harvest cap during the June fisheries using all gear types. More specifically, set a cap of 280,000 chum salmon and close the commercial fishery for the remainder of June once that cap is met. This request is consistent with historical records, where concerns over large commercial harvests of chum together with weak Yukon River fall chum runs, resulted in a cap limit that, if met, closed the fishery for the remainder of June.
-
- Alaska Peninsula is one of six Fisheries on the migratory path of Coastal Western Alaska (CWA) chum salmon - Alaska Peninsula, Bristol Bay, AK Peninsula, Bristol Bay, Kuskokwim, Yukon, Norton Sound and Arctic. Therefore, based on preliminary estimates for CWA chum from 2021, the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June should account for approximately one sixth of the chum salmon for the season. Currently, the management plan does not identify any harvest limits for chum salmon. Establishing a cap would ensure that migrating chum reach their spawning grounds to the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim region, as well as Bristol Bay, Alaska Peninsula, Southcentral Alaska, Japan, and Russia. ONC understands that while the request may present difficulties to commercial fishermen in the South Alaska Peninsula Management Area, we all, across user groups and Management Regions, have the shared interest and responsibility to protect the CWA chum salmon stock. When chum salmon are abundant, we all thrive; in times of hardships, we all must work together and share the burden of conservation to ensure abundant populations in the future.
-
- ONC suggests incorporating the chum salmon harvest cap into a new section between (d) and (e). The South Unimak and Shumagin Islands commercial fisheries are limited to harvesting 280,000 chum salmon during the month of June using all

gear types. If reached, it would result in a closure of the fishery for the remainder of June.

-
- **Commercial harvest of chum salmon will not exceed 280,000 fish to ensure that migrating chum reach their spawning grounds to the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim region, as well as Bristol Bay, Alaska Peninsula, Southcentral Alaska, Japan, and Russia. Therefore, the fishing periods, as specified in (b) of this section, may not be fulfilled once this limit is met.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC) is the federally recognized Tribe for the Native Village of Bethel, Alaska. Bethel is located along the delta of the Kuskokwim River, approximately 90 miles inland from the Bering Sea and approximately 398 miles northwest of Anchorage. ONC serves approximately 4,500 Alaska Native residents from all villages throughout Yukon-Kuskokwim (YK) Delta, over 3,800 of which are enrolled as Tribal members.

-
- **Proposal #137**-Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Island June Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time.
- Johnny Friend made a **motion to support** on the proposal, seconded by Tommy Kusaiak. All in favor, **motion passed**.

PROPOSAL 137

5 AAC 09.365 South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.

Amend the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* to reduce commercial salmon fishing time, as follows:

ONC would like to reduce the current commercial fishing period hours for all gear types during the June fishery described in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, 5 AAC 09.365. Specifically, ONC proposes to amend section (d), to reduce total commercial fishing time to 100 hours. Alaska Peninsula is one of six Fisheries on the migratory path of CWA chum salmon; Alaska Peninsula, Bristol Bay, AK Peninsula, Bristol Bay, Kuskokwim, Yukon, Norton Sound and Arctic. Therefore, the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries should have a harvest window that accounts for approximately one 6th of the total harvest window of the Commercial June fishery.

- These reduced harvest hours create fishing closures that will span over a longer period of time

Regulation of 5 AAC 09.365 South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, specifically amendment to section (d):

“... (d) In the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries, the commissioner

may establish, by emergency order, commercial fishing periods as follows:

~~[(1) FOR SET GILLNET GEAR,~~

~~(A) — BEGINNING JUNE 6, COMMERCIAL FISHING PERIODS WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 A.M. AND RUN 64 HOURS UNTIL 10:00 P.M. TWO DAYS LATER; BEGINNING JUNE 10, COMMERCIAL FISHING PERIODS WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 A.M. AND RUN 88 HOURS UNTIL 10:00 P.M. THREE DAYS LATER; COMMERCIAL FISHING WILL THEN CLOSE FOR 32 HOURS AND REOPEN AT 6:00 A.M. TWO DAYS LATER;~~

~~(B) — NOTWITHSTANDING (A) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE FINAL COMMERCIAL FISHING PERIOD WILL END AT 10:00 P.M. ON JUNE 28;]~~

(1) [(2)] for seine and drift gillnet gear,

(A) Beginning June 10, All daily fishing periods will be 16 hours in length, from 6:00 AM until 10:00 PM. The following fishing period will be 48 [six] hours later. After June 25th, the following fishing period will be 4 hours, not to exceed a total of 100 hours of commercial fishing.

~~[(A) BEGINNING JUNE 10, COMMERCIAL FISHING PERIODS WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 A.M. AND RUN 88 HOURS UNTIL 10:00 P.M. THREE DAYS LATER; COMMERCIAL FISHING WILL THEN CLOSE FOR 32 HOURS AND REOPEN AT 6:00 A.M. TWO DAYS LATER;]~~

- **What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC) is a federally recognized Tribal governing body for the Native Village of Bethel, Alaska. Bethel is located along the delta of the Kuskokwim River, approximately 90 miles inland from the Bering Sea and approximately 398 miles northwest of Anchorage. ONC serves approximately 4,500 Alaska Native residents from all villages throughout Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta (YK Delta), over 3,800 of which are enrolled as Tribal members.
-
- ONC is extremely concerned about the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of our Tribe and the YK Delta Region after experiencing the lowest chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*) return on record in 2021. Therefore, ONC would like to address the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, 5 AAC 09.365. Specifically, ONC proposes to establish reduced fishing time for all gear types during the June fisheries in South Unimak and Shumagin Islands.
- Both chum salmon and sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*) are harvested in the month of June along the south Alaska Peninsula; the sockeye salmon are predominantly Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula origin and the chum salmon, however, are bound for a number of areas, including the Arctic- Yukon-Kuskokwim (AYK) region. In 2021, the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June salmon commercial fishery experienced an abundant harvest of approximately 1,168,601 chum salmon¹, while subsistence users on the Kuskokwim and Yukon River approximately harvested 9,621² and 1,253³ chum salmon, respectively. This drastic difference of harvest between fisheries signifies that

further protection is needed on the migratory route of Coastal Western Alaska (CWA) chum salmon to comply with the Policy for the Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries, 5 AAC

- 39.222. Therefore, it is critical to reduce commercial fishing periods in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands, where chum salmon stock is bound for the AYK region, among many other regions.
-
- The Kuskokwim River faced a record low return of chum salmon in 2021 and yet again is expected to face another poor return in 2022. Declining stock of salmon creates unrest and stability in our community as food security declines further. It is of utmost importance that we act right away, to protect our livelihood and allow future generations to continue harvesting salmon.
-
- ¹Regional Report No. 4K22-01 - 2021 South Peninsula Salmon Annual Management Report and 2020 Subsistence Fisheries in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Atka-Amlia Islands Management Areas
- ²Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) Draft Preliminary Kuskokwim River Salmon Harvest Estimates 2021 Postseason Surveys
- ³Yukon River Salmon 2021 Season Summary and 2022 Season Outlook, Regional Information Report 3A22-01 ADF&G
-
- **Proposal#138**-Amend
- Simeon Moses made a **motion to support** on the proposal, seconded by Susie Walters. All in favor, **motion passed**.

- **PROPOSAL 138**
- **5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.** Amend the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* to require the department to place observers onboard commercial salmon fishing vessels, as follows:
 -
 - ONC would like to address necessary changes in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, 5 AAC 09.365. Specifically, ONC proposes to enhance the accountability of harvest data collected and facilitate information gathering by incorporating an onboard observer component into the management plan.
 -
 - ONC firmly believes in 5 AAC 39.141, the Onboard Observer Program, and supports the findings in 5 AAC 39.141(a), where, “the Board of Fisheries finds that ... observers on board fishing vessels would greatly enhance management, primarily by facilitating information gathering and by improving regulatory compliance.” Additionally, 5 AAC 39.141 (e) states that, “onboard observers shall carry out such scientific and other duties as deemed necessary or appropriate to

manage, protect, maintain, improve and extend the fish and aquatic plant resources of the State” which may be in direct support of the recently introduced Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act.

-
- To further consider this proposal, one must take into account the drastic difference of harvest between the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June salmon commercial fishery and subsistence fishery on the Kuskokwim River in 2021. This, and the expected low returns of chum salmon in 2022, will likely increase tensions between users, and subsistence users will expect higher accountability of commercial fisheries.
-
- As stated the Regulations for the Board of Fisheries, Sec. 16.05.251 (a)(13), the Board of Fisheries may adopt regulations it considers advisable in accordance with AS 44.62 for “regulating, in a fishery, observers on board fishing vessels as defined in AS 16.05.475(d), that are registered under the laws of the state, as defined in AS 16.05.475(c)...”
-
- The recommended changes include the insertion of a clause to incorporate onboard observers and amend subsequent order of stipulations. Amend 5 AAC 09.365 to read:
- **Regulation of 5 AAC 09.365 South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan:**
- **Certified observers will be onboard commercial fishing vessels to collect first-hand harvest data to assure effective monitoring, compliance, control and enforcement.**
- After experiencing the lowest chum salmon return on record on the

Kuskokwim River, ONC firmly believes it is of utmost importance to have the most reliable harvest information possible. For this reason, ONC would like to address necessary changes in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, 5 AAC 09.365. Specifically, ONC proposes to enhance the accountability of harvest data collected and facilitate information gathering by incorporating an onboard observer component into the management plan. We find the need to protect our livelihood and allow future generations to continue harvesting salmon..

- **Proposal#139**-Recommended for no action by the other group

- **Proposal #140-** Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time.
- Motion made by Johnny Friend to **support** proposal #140, seconded by Susie Walter. **Motion passed.**

PROPOSAL 140

5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.

Amend the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* to reduce commercial salmon fishing time, as follows:

Repeal the current *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* and readopt an amended version of the management plan in place from 2001-2003, as follows: Erase all of the current 5 AAC 09.365 and replace with the following, edited language from the 2001-2003 plan;

5 AAC 09.365. SOUTH UNIMAK AND SHUMAGIN ISLANDS JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN (2001-2003).

- (a) The South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries harvest [BOTH] **chinook salmon**, sockeye salmon and chum salmon in a mixed stock fishery. These stocks of salmon are bound for Bristol Bay and the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim region, as well as other areas across the North Pacific Ocean. These salmon stocks have historically been intercepted in significant numbers along the Alaska Peninsula. To ensure that none of these salmon stocks are overharvested, it is necessary to restrain the interception of these stocks as provided in the management plan in this section, and consistent with the Policy for the Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (5 AAC 39.222) and Policy for the Management of Mixed Stock Salmon Fisheries (5 AAC 39.220)
- (b) The South Unimak fishery takes place in the Unimak District, the Ikatan Bay Section in the Southwestern District, and the Bechevin Bay Section in the Northwestern District, plus the following waters of the Southwestern District located outside of the Ikatan Bay Section and not described as closed waters in 5 AAC 09.350;
 - (1) waters north and west of a line from Cape Pankof Light to Thin Point (54° 57.32' N. lat., 162° 33.50' W. long.); and
 - (2) waters enclosed by a line from Thin Point (54° 57.32' N. lat., 162° 33.50' W. long.) to the northernmost tip of Stag Point (54° 59.10' N. lat., 162° 18.10' W. long.) on Deer Island to the southernmost tip of Dolgoi Cape (55° 03.15' N. lat., 161° 44.35' W. long.) on Dolgoi Island and from the northernmost tip of

Bluff Point (55° 09.93' N. lat., 161° 53.72' W. long.) on Dolgoi Island to ArchPoint Light (55° 12.30' N. lat., 161 ° 54.30' W. long.).

(c) The Shumagin Islands fishery takes place in the Shumagin Islands Section.

(d) Beginning June 10 **through June 30**, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, commercial fishing periods for purse seine and drift gillnet gear as follows:

(1) commercial fishing periods may occur only from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and may not be open for more than

(A) three days in any seven-day period;

(B) 16 hours per day;

(C) 48 hours in any seven-day period;

(D) two consecutive 16-hour fishing periods in any seven-day period;

[(2) THROUGH JUNE 24, COMMERCIAL FISHING PERIODS IN THE SHUMAGIN ISLANDS AND SOUTH UNIMAK FISHERIES WILL OCCUR AT THE SAME TIME;

(3) AFTER JUNE 24, THE PROVISIONS OF (F) APPLY.]

(e) Beginning June 10, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, commercial fishing periods for set gillnet gear in both the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries as follows:

(1) from June 10 through [JUNE 24] **June 30**,

(A) commercial fishing periods may occur only from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; [(B) THE FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE PERIOD IF, DURING THE PRECEDING PERIOD, THE RATIO OF SOCKEYE SALMON TO CHUM SALMON IS NOT EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN THE RECENT 10 YEAR AVERAGE;

(2) AFTER JUNE 24, THE SCHEDULE OF OPENINGS AND CLOSINGS OF FISHING PERIODS SHALL COINCIDE WITH THE SCHEDULE FOR SEINE AND DRIFT GILLNET GEAR AS SPECIFIED IN (F) OF THIS SECTION.

(F) AFTER JUNE 24, IN EITHER THE SOUTH UNIMAK OR SHUMAGIN ISLANDS FISHERIES,

(1) IF THE RATIO OF SOCKEYE SALMON TO CHUM SALMON IS TWO TO ONE OR LESS ON ANY DAY, THE NEXT DAILY FISHING PERIOD FOR SEINE AND DRIFT GILLNET GEAR SHALL BE OF SIX-HOUR DURATION IN THAT FISHERY;

(2) IF THE RATIO OF SOCKEYE SALMON TO CHUM SALMON IS GREATER THAN TWO TO ONE, THE COMMISSIONER MAY EXTEND THE FISHING PERIOD BY EMERGENCY ORDER, TO A MAXIMUM OF 16 HOURS AS DESCRIBED IN (D)(L) OF THIS SECTION;

(3) IF THE RATIO OF SOCKEYE SALMON TO CHUM SALMON IS TWO TO ONE OR LESS FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE FISHING PERIODS, THE FISHERY SHALL CLOSE FOR ALL GEAR TYPES.]

(g) All salmon caught by a CFEC permit holder must be retained, and each CFEC permit holder must report the number of salmon caught, including those taken but not sold, on an ADF&G fish ticket. For the purposes of this subsection, "caught" means brought on board the vessel.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Reduce Excessive harvest of migrating discrete stocks of concern in the Cook Inlet, Bristol Bay, and AYK areas.

2021 saw a decrease of Yukon River summer and fall chum escapement of almost 90%. This was without any directed fishery and no subsistence harvest.

The Yukon River summer chum run averages 2 million fish. In 2021 that number was 152,000. The Yukon River fall chum run average is 998,000 fish. In 2021 that number was 102,000. Two large producers of chum salmon in the Yukon Drainage, the Chena and Salcha Rivers, saw only 22% of average escapement under perfect counting conditions. Alaska did not meet any of its Treaty obligations with Canada. (There is an international treaty with Canada over Yukon River Chinook, summer and fall chum that spawn in Canada.)

This resulted in unprecedented loss of subsistence chum fishing opportunity in the Yukon River.

At the same time, the S. Unimak and Shumagin Islands June 2021 fishery had the highest harvest of chum salmon in the history of the Area M fishery. 1,168,601 chum were harvested in the 2021 June fishery alone.

This indicates that there is a direct correlation between the high harvest of chum in Area M to the loss of chum escapement to the AYK and a total loss of chum subsistence harvest.

Reducing the Area M June fishery will allow opportunity to see if chum escapement in the AYK will be able to meet escapement goals and allow for a subsistence harvest.

This is ultimately both a conservation and a subsistence issue.

- **PROPOSED BY:** Fairbanks Advisory Committee Fisheries Sub-Committee
- **Proposal#141 & 142-** No Action.

Board of Fisheries Membership:

NAME	TERM EXPIRES
McKenzie Mitchell	6/30/2023
Märit Carlson-Van Dort (Chair)	6/30/2024
Thomas Carpenter	6/30/2025
John Jensen	6/30/2023
Mike Heimbuch	6/30/2023
David Weisz	6/30/2025
John Wood	6/30/2024

Märit Carlson-Van Dort - Anchorage

Chair - Term expires 6/30/2024

Märit Carlson-Van Dort is Sugpiaq from the village of Chignik Bay. She was born in Alaska and raised in Southeast Alaska and the southern Alaska Peninsula where she commercial fished for nearly fifteen years. Marit has a Bachelor of Science in Conservation Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and graduate work in Fisheries Science and Secondary Education. Märit has spent the past several years working in both the public and private sectors in public and government affairs with an emphasis on state and federal regulation, environmental policy, permitting, resource development, and community outreach and engagement. Currently she is employed as the President & CEO of Far West, Inc. an Alaska Native village corporation formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). In addition to her work at Far West, she has served on the board of directors of STAR of Anchorage, a local non-profit providing advocacy and support services to victims of sexual trauma, and was a proud volunteer at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska.

Märit can be reached [by email](#).

John Jensen - Petersburg

Vice Chair - Term expires 6/30/2023

John was first appointed to the Board of Fisheries by Governor Murkowski in 2003. John lives in Petersburg and participates in crab and halibut fisheries in Southeast Alaska, and owns Jensen's Boat Rentals. John attended Yakama Valley College and has over 45 years of fishing experience in a variety of areas of the state.

John can be reached [by email](#).

McKenzie Mitchell - Fairbanks

Term expires 6/30/2023

McKenzie Mitchell received her B.A. in Economics as well as her M.S. in Resource and Applied Economics from the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). Her graduate degree work was concentrated in fisheries management and she now teaches economics and recreation management courses at UAF. McKenzie has worked in Alaska's hunting and fishing industry for 10 years doing the jobs of hunting guide, boat captain, and sport fishing guide. Her passion for fisheries and Alaska's resources is supported by her industry work and education.

McKenzie can be reached [by email](#).

Homer News file photo by Michael Armstrong. Used with permission of the Homer News.

Mike Heimbuch - Homer

Term expires 6/30/2023

Mike Heimbuch is a lifelong Alaskan who was raised in Anchorage and has lived in Homer since 1975. He studied music at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, homesteaded in Willow in 1960, and began commercial fishing with his folks in 1963. Over the decades he has participated in a wide array of fisheries across the state as well as holding local office and serving on various commissions and boards.

Mike can be reached [by email](#).

John Wood - Willow

Term expires 6/30/2024

After earning his Juris Doctorate from LSU in 1971, John immediately moved to Alaska. His first job was working for the Alaska Superior Court as a law clerk and standing master. In 1973 John opened the doors to his law firm and practiced through the mid 90s before retiring. He has served in numerous appointed and elected positions including over 9 years on the Anchorage Assembly. Currently lives in Willow nestled in Hatcher Pass between two salmon streams and can be seen frequently during the summer fishing Southcentral waters either floating, wading or on his riverboat. John became intrigued by the unique approach of the BOF while employed as legislative staff in the 2014 cycle and welcomes the opportunity to help find solutions to some of long standing issues that seem to divide our community year after year. John's highest priority will be to protect and enhance the strength of our stocks both in the numbers and size of the returns and harvests.

John can be reached [by email](#).

Tom Carpenter - Cordova

Term expires 6/30/2025

Tom has lived in Cordova for 30 years. Tom attended Lincoln College and Baylor University, served 4 years in the U.S. Coast Guard, owned and operated a sporting goods business in Cordova and

commercial fished Area E for over 20 years. Tom spent 22 years as the Co-Chair of the Copper River Prince William Sound Advisory Committee as well as many other local and regional boards.

Tom can be reached [by email](#).

Stan Zuray - Tanana

Term expires 6/30/2025

Stan Zuray was born in Boston, Massachusetts and moved to Tanana, Alaska in 1973. He is married with four children. His first occupations were trapping with his dog team and running a chum salmon instream incubation program on a spawning stream where he lived. He later began a research effort into the declining size and numbers of Chinook Salmon and the disease of Ichthyophonosis (Rapids Research Center). For many years he has been chairman of his local ADF&G advisory committee and secretary of the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association. Locally he is involved with the fire and search and rescue departments, dog mushers association, and he ran a teen center for village youth. Stan has mostly made his living from work as a subsistence and commercial fisherman until recently and now works as a mechanic and equipment operator in Tanana.

Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy Checklist

Questions that the record should show were considered in support of salmon management plan regulations. (does not reflect all goals, objectives, or statements of intent within the policy and does not reflect standards that should be met in every case as a result of compliance with statutory requirements)

1. Have the following factors been considered in formulating *management plans*:

- (A) Environmental change?
- (B) Habitat loss or degradation?
- (C) Data uncertainty?
- (D) Limited funding for research and management?
- (E) Existing harvest patterns?
- (F) New fisheries or expanding fisheries? [5 AAC 39.222(a)(2)]

2. Are escapements within ranges necessary to conserve and sustain potential salmon production and ecosystem functioning? (Applicable to escapement-related proposals). [.222(c)(2)]

- (A) Have spawning escapements been assessed both temporally and geographically and are escapement monitoring programs appropriate to the scale, intensity, and importance of each stock's use?
- (B) Are escapement goals consistent with sustained yield?
- (C) Do escapement goal ranges allow for uncertainty in measurement techniques, variability in the stock, changes in climatic and oceanographic conditions, and varying abundance within related populations of the stock?
- (D) Is escapement managed to maintain genetic and phenotypic characteristics of the stock by assuring appropriate geographic and temporal distribution of spawners, as well as consideration of size range, sex ratio, and other population attributes?
- (E) Have fishing impacts, including incidental mortality and other human-induced mortality, been assessed and considered?
- (G) Do escapement and harvest management decisions protect non-target salmon stocks?
- (H) Has the role of salmon in ecosystem functioning been evaluated and considered in harvest management decisions and setting of salmon escapement goals?
- (I) Are abundance trends monitored and considered in harvest management decisions?

3. Have effective management >}'Stems been established and applied to regulate human

activities that affect salmon? [222(c)(3)(H)&(L)]

(A) Has the Board worked within the limits of its authority to assure:

(i) management activities are accomplished in a timely and responsive manner to implement objectives, based on the best available scientific information?

(ii) effective mechanisms for the collection and dissemination of information and data necessary to carry out management activities are developed, maintained, and utilized?

(iii) management programs and decision-making procedures are able to clearly distinguish, and effectively deal with, biological and allocation issues?

(B) Is there excess fishing capacity? If so will Board regulations control it, or is the Board working with the Commissioner and other agencies to control it?

(4). In the face of uncertainty, are stocks, fisheries, artificial propagation, and essential habitats managed conservatively as follows [222(c)(5)]:

(A) Is a **precautionary approach** applied to human induced mortality? A precautionary approach takes into account the uncertainties in salmon fisheries and habitat management, the biological,

social, cultural, and economic risks, and the need to take action with incomplete knowledge. A precautionary approach requires:

- (i) consideration of future needs and avoidance of potentially irreversible changes;
 - (ii) prior identification of undesirable outcomes and of measures that will avoid undesirable outcomes or correct them promptly;
 - (iii) initiation of any necessary corrective measure without delay and prompt achievement of the measure's purpose, on a time scale not exceeding five years;
 - (iv) that where the impact of resource use is uncertain, but likely presents a measurable risk to sustained yield, priority should be given to conserving the productive capacity of the resource; and
 - (v) that plans or ongoing actions that could pose a risk or hazard to habitat or production demonstrate compliance with precautionary principles (i)-(iv) above;
- (B) Is a precautionary approach applied to the regulation of activities that affect essential salmon habitat?

5. Are the principles and criteria for sustainable salmon fisheries using the best available information being applied? [222(d)J

6. Is the Management Plan based on the 11 principles and criteria contained in the sustainable salmon policy? [222(d)(2)] And does it

- (A) contain goals and measurable and implementable objectives and utilize the best available scientific information;
- (B) minimize the adverse effects on habitat caused by fishing;
- (C) protect, restore, & promote the long-term health and sustainability of the fishery and habitat;
- (D) prevent overfishing; and
- (E) provide conservation & management measures that are necessary and appropriate to promote maximum or optimum sustained yield of the fishery resource?

7. Do any new fisheries or expanding fisheries, stock yield concerns, stock management concerns, or stock conservation concerns exist? (Applicable to management plan [222(d)(3)]

8. Has the Board collaborated with the department in the development of an Action Plan for any new or expanding salmon fisheries, or stocks of concern? [222(d)(4)] If so has the board ensured that action plans contain goals, measurable and implementable objectives, and provisions, including

- (A) measures required to restore and protect habitat, including necessary coordination with other agencies and organizations;
- (B) identification of stock or population rebuilding goals and objectives;
- (C) fishery management actions needed to achieve rebuilding goals and objectives, in proportion to each fishery's use of, and hazards posed to, a stock;
- (D) descriptions of new or expanding fisheries, management concern, yield concern, or conservation concern;
- (E) performance measures appropriate for monitoring and gauging the effectiveness of the action plan; and
- (F) a research plan as necessary to provide information to address concerns and provisions for periodic evaluation of research needs and priorities based on the effectiveness of the monitoring.

Are needed actions to regulate human activities that affect salmon and salmon's habitat outside the authority of the department or the board? If so has the department or board corresponded with the relevant authority, including the governor, relevant boards and commissions, commissioners, and chairs of appropriate legislative committees, to describe the issue and recommend appropriate action?

Hollingworth, Savannah R (DFG)

From: Suson, Sonni N C (DFG)
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 4:27 PM
To: Hollingworth, Savannah R (DFG)
Cc: Tibbles, Kristy R (DFG)
Subject: FW: per diem & the Central Bering Sea AC

Here is the info on whom to write to for per diem increase concerns. The AC can address the DOA commissioner directly, and their local state legislator.

I'd use the mailing address below that Kate screenshot for Commissioner Vrana.

Kind Regards,

Sonni N. C. Suson

Accounting Technician II | 465.6084
Department of Fish and Game | Boards Support|



From: Austin, Kate E (DFG) <kate.austin@alaska.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 3:41 PM
To: Suson, Sonni N C (DFG) <sonni.suson@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: per diem & the Central Bering Sea AC

I would think probably to their local legislator, at least to start.

This is the address I see for Paula Vrana in the LDAP

Contact Information

Name	Paula R Vrana	User ID
Phone	(907)465-1176	Fax
Mobile		Pager
Email Address	paula.vrana@alaska.gov	Alternate Email

Business and Location Information

Title	Commissioner	Display Name
Agency	Administration	Sub-Agency
Agency#	02Z01C	Employee#
Contact Code	A01D	Class Code
PCN	021001	Bargaining Unit
Manager	mjdunleavy	Location
Mailing Address	550 W 7th Ave Ste 1970 Anchorage, AK 99501	Street Address

From: Suson, Sonni N C (DFG) <sonni.suson@alaska.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 3:39 PM

To: Austin, Kate E (DFG) <kate.austin@alaska.gov>

Subject: RE: per diem & the Central Bering Sea AC

Great, so it would be the following:

Commissioner Paula Vrana

PO Box 110200

Juneau AK 99811-0200

Tel: (907) 465-2200

Fax: (907) 465-2135

Email: doa.commissioner@alaska.gov



ADF&G • Boards Support Section

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ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

2022/2023 CYCLE TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Island, Bering Sea and Chignik Pacific Cod; Bristol Bay Finfish; Arctic, Yukon, and Kuskokwim Finfish; Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Island, and Chignik Finfish; Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues

Meeting Dates	Topics	Location	Comment Deadline
October 25-26, 2022 [2 days]	Work Session ACRs, cycle organization, Stocks of Concern	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	Oct. 11, 2022
October 27-28, 2022 [2 days]	Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea, and Chignik Pacific Cod Meeting	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	Oct. 11, 2022
Nov. 29-Dec. 3, 2022 [5 days]	Bristol Bay Finfish	Anchorage Dena'ina Center	Nov. 14, 2022
January 14-18, 2023 [5 days]	Arctic / Yukon / Kuskokwim Finfish	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	Dec. 30, 2022
February 20-25, 2023 [6 days]	Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Island / Chignik Finfish	Anchorage Dena'ina Center	Feb. 3, 2023
March 10-13, 2023 [4 days]	Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues	Anchorage Egan Civic and Convention Center	Feb. 23, 2023

Proposal Deadline: Monday, April 11, 2022

Total Meeting Days: 24

Agenda Change Request Deadline: Friday August 26, 2022 [60 days prior to fall work session]



ADF&G Boards Support Section

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Best Practices for Teleconference and Zoom Meetings for Fish and Game Advisory Committees

This 2020/2021 meeting cycle, we are all faced with challenges and limitations for holding meetings due to COVID-19. To ensure the safety for all participants, advisory committee (AC) meetings will be held via teleconference or Zoom. Boards Support staff will assist the ACs with utilizing these meeting formats and offer the following tips for helping the ACs hold productive meetings

- **Set up:**
 - Contact Boards Support regional coordinators to set up Zoom and/or teleconference capabilities for the members, public and staff to join the meeting.
 - The meeting link, call-in numbers, and access codes will be stated on the public meeting notice and agenda.
 - Practice meetings for AC members to utilize Zoom may be helpful; Boards Support Regional Coordinators can assist with these arrangements.
- **Be prepared**
 - Review meeting material prior to the AC meeting.
 - Make sure you have what you need to do your part.
 - Call into the meeting early to allow it to start at the designated time.
 - Contact the Boards Support Regional Coordinator well before the meeting for any technical assistance.
- **Agenda**
 - The meeting agenda and notice will be provided for each meeting so everyone can follow along.
 - Call in information will be included on the agenda.
 - Avoid deviating from the agenda topics.
 - For longer meetings, schedule breaks.
- **Mind the background noise**
 - Find a quiet place from which to join.
 - Use a head set if possible; avoid speaker phones.
 - Use mute when not speaking – but remember to unmute when you need to speak.
 - **Do not** put the teleconference on hold to take another call; hang up if you must take the other call. Using the hold function often plays elevator music to the listener – which in this case is your entire advisory committee. It is very disruptive.

- **Maintain Quorum**
 - Clearly state your name when called upon to determine quorum.
 - If members leave the meeting unannounced, quorum may be unknowingly lost.
 - Let your fellow members know if you have to leave, and how long you may be gone for.
- **When Speaking**
 - Unmute yourself.
 - State your name for the record before speaking.
 - Address people by name when you speak to them.
 - Mute yourself when you are finished speaking.
 - Stick to the agenda topic being discussed.
- **When Voting**
 - Asking for unanimous consent may be used when possible.
 - A roll call vote should be utilized if there is a division.
 - Regular voice voting without visual cues does not work very well, particularly for large groups.
- **Plan for delays**
 - Planning and prep work helps. Nevertheless, delays WILL happen.
 - Common delays:
 - Quorum issues
 - Telephone connectivity issues
 - Other tech issues...
- **Common Courtesy**
 - Be patient when waiting to speak.
 - Minimize interruptions or speaking on top of others.
 - Be respectful and polite of the chair and other speakers
- **Elections (See additional instructions below)**
 - Regulations provide for members whose terms have expired to continue serving, so elections can be delayed.
 - Elections may be able to occur via teleconference or Zoom meeting when feasible.
 - Voting participants may be expected to sign in.
 - Oral voting may be required.
- **Zoom Meetings**
 - Boards Support will work with AC Chairpersons and members to provide guidance for utilizing Zoom meetings.
 - Assigning the function of host to the secretary or other member will be necessary when Board Support are not able to assist.
 - Practice meetings are encouraged.
 - Don't be discouraged to try it; Zoom may be a great alternative for in person meetings.

Best Practices for Advisory Committee Elections Through Teleconference or Zoom

With the limitation of in-person Advisory Committee (AC) meetings this meeting cycle due to COVID-19, If your AC would like to conduct elections through teleconference or Zoom, the following are some options and considerations to think about.

Holding elections in a virtual setting will require more responsibility for the regional coordinator (RC). It is important for the AC chair to coordinate with your RC to be sure they are available to assist in the election process.

Options for holding elections through teleconference or Zoom:

1. Roll Call Election- Practical for those that are fine with having no anonymity with who is being voted for.
2. Election conducted during teleconference meeting
 - a. Voting would be conducted via email or text.
 - b. Participants may be required to register with the RC by providing name, physical residence address as well as either the phone number or email that they will be voting from.
 - i. The RC will describe the process for registering to vote in the public notice for the election meeting.
3. Election conducted during videoconference
 - a. Voting would be conducted via Zoom poll, but could also include email or text
 - b. Participants may be required to register with the RC by providing name, physical residence address as well as either the phone number or email that they will be voting from if unable to use the “polling” feature of Zoom.
 - i. The RC will describe the process for registering to vote in the public notice for the election meeting.
 - c. AC members and the public who are participating via videoconference can vote via the “polling” feature. As nominations are made, the RC will enter each nomination into the poll and when nominations are over, the individuals qualified to vote will do so by answering the poll that will be distributed within the meeting.
 - d. AC members and the public who are participating via teleconference will not be able to utilize the polling feature and instead, must cast their vote to the RC by voice, email, or text.
 - e. Zoom “breakout rooms” can be set up by the RCs to allow individuals to cast votes directly, and privately, to the RC.
 - f. If the AC’s meeting schedule allows, it may be advisable to schedule the nomination and election process at separate meetings to allow the members and public more time in which to register to vote in a manner that works best for them.

Considerations:

The process must be laid out in writing in advance of the election process. The AC chair must agree to the conditions of the election and understand that if not all of the conditions are adhered to that the election may be voided.