

**Eagle Fish and Game
Advisory Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
2-1-2023**

Eagle Village Tribal Hall

- I. Call to Order: 1:06 by Karma Ulvi
- II. Roll Call
Members Present: Karma Ulvi- Chair, Steve Robbins- Vice Chair, Ben Juneby, Sonja Sager, Mike McDougall, Ruby Becker

Members Absent (Excused): Don Woodruff, Andy Bassich, Chalia Selman
Members Absent (Unexcused): Jackie Helmer,
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Kyle Campbell, Christy Gleason, Shane Ransbury, Deena Jallen, Chuck Brazil (sp?), Sam Decker,

IV. Guests Present: Gail Vick Fairbanks AC, Bruce Irvin-UAF

V. Approval of Agenda: Steve motions to approve, Ben 2nd
This meeting is primarily to go over the AK Pen/Aleutian/Chignik BOF Proposals.

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Steve motions to approve, Ben 2nds

VII. Reports

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Old Business: Previous meeting minutes question. Proposal 89: TNA

X. New Business: Karma asks how to delegate Ruby as an alternate for this meeting. Kyle explains that a motion can be made and approved by a majority of AC member present. Also the chair can appoint an alternate with the approval of the members present to reach a quorum.

Karma motions to add Ruby (Michelle) Becker as an alternate for today's AC mtg.
Mike 2nds
Motion passes UNAM- So we have 6 voting members present today

Prop 98: (Steve motions/Ben 2nd)

Very little discussion as this is outside of our area and we don't know enough to make an informed decision or recommendation.

TNA

Prop 99-104: (Mike motions/Steve 2nd)

Same as above. Not enough information, No ADFG staff from this region present to answer questions or offer background information.

TNA

Prop 105: (Steve motions/Ruby 2nd)

Disc: Gail explains that this Department proposal basically combines runs (Kodiak region) into lower escapement goals. Fairbanks and Chignik AC's both opposed this proposal. Not in favor of lowering any escapement goals.

OPPOSE/UNAM

Prop 106: (Ruby motions, Steve 2nd)

Disc: Gail explains that Fbx AC supported 106 after their review.

Karma question for clarification. Mike-anything we can do to increase any escapements, limiting commercial fishing, and carcass decomp. on the spawning grounds.

Wondering about "low quality spawner" and if someone could define what that means.

Gail-size comparison

Increasing escapement # could counter balance the smaller fish size

Karma- malnutrition in fish and other diseases

SUPPORT/UNAM

Prop: 107 and 108 (Ruby motions/Ben 2nd)

This proposal will increase commercial fishing time in Area M.

Karma reads through Jim Simon's summary. Gail comments that the Fbx AC mirrored all of the comments, although their discussion and wording was different.

Fairbanks AC opposed.

OPPOSE/UNAM

Mike comments that any proposal that recommends opening commercial salmon fishing regardless of escapements he finds irresponsible.

Prop 109: (Ruby motions/Steve 2nd)

SUPPORT/UNAM

Prop 110:

Ruby motions to Take no Action, as it is something that is already in practice. Steve 2nds

Prop 111: (Steve motions/ Ben 2nd)

Gail explains Axel's proposal from a commercial and subsistence standpoint, also that Chignik and Nelson Lagoon on the northern side, have escapement goal management plan, the rest of Area M does not.

Fairbanks AC voted to support after presentation from Axel.

Mike Questions- If Chignik area management opens up windows to fish pink and chum, what are the chances they would intercept AYK bound chinook and chum?

Gail: my assessment would be that would be very low, area L fish come down in a very localized pattern. Very low chances.

Karma: Not sure how they could manage fishing for pink and chum, if sockeye isn't open and their escapement is unknown.

Steve: My concern would be anything that is opening for commercial, I am not in favor.

Ben: Not in support either

OPPOSE/UNAM

Prop 112-117: (Steve motions/ Ruby 2nd)

Very little discussion-All of these proposals would allow for more potential intercept of AYK bound salmon.

OPPOSE/UNAM

PROP 118: (Steve motion/Ben 2nd)

OPPOSE/UNAM

PROP 119 (Ruby motions, Steve 2nd)

TNA

PROP 120 (Ruby motions, Steve 2nd)

TNA

PROP 121-125 (Steve motions, Ben 2nd)

OPPOSE/UNAM

PROP 126: (Steve motions to take no action, Ruby 2nd)

TNA

PROP 127: (Ruby motions, Ben 2nd)

OPPOSE/UNAM

PROP 128-129 (Steve motions to take no action, Mike 2nds)

TNA

PROP 130-132 (Steve motions, Ben 2nds)

OPPOSE/UNAM

PROP 133-139 (Steve motions, Ben 2nds)

We support all proposals that reduce Area M commercial fishing time, but prefer to adopt Proposal 140, which is a compromise proposal.

All of these proposals are strong, but supporting 140 is the best option to reduce commercial fishing time and extend compromise to Area M commercial fisherman.

Gail Vick: Roadmap for Board mtg. shows 140 as #3 so it will come up very quickly.

Mike Question: 138 Observers- separate from Commercial fishing time.

Gail: Good proposal and we need it, but the board cannot obligate the department to financial obligation, it should go to the legislature.

Mike: How many observers would be required and where would the funding come from?

Gail: Quite a few vessels participate. Mostly targeted at the trawl fishery in the Bering Sea pollock fleet. If this went to the Legislature, it would likely be cameras on board each vessel. These boats are not as big as the pollock fleet, but they are still really big boats and they fish 24-7. Concerns about Chum chucking and other practices. Cheaper and would record activity.

SUPPORT/UNAM

PROP 140

We did vote on 140 at the last meeting, but did not have enough information for Discussion.

We are going to do the entire Proposal again.

(Ruby motions to approve, Steve 2nd)

SUPPORT/UNAM

PROP 141 (Steve motions, Ruby 2nd)

We support all proposals that reduce Area M salmon interception, but we prefer the adoption of Proposal 140, which is a compromise proposal relative to the others before the board of fish at this time.

SUPPORT/UNAM

PROP 142 (Steve motions to take no action, Mike 2nds)

TNA/UNAM

PROP 143 (Ruby motions, Steve 2nds)

This proposal serves to try to protect immature salmon, especially immature Chinook salmon.

SUPPORT/UNAM

PROP 144-147 (Steve motions, Ben 2nd)

OPPOSE/UNAM

PROP 148-149 (Steve motions, Ben 2nd)

We support all proposals that reduce Area M salmon interception, but we prefer the adoption of Proposal 140, which is a compromise proposal relative to the others before the board of fish at this time.

SUPPORT/UNAM

PROP 150: (Ruby motions, Ben 2nd)

SUPPORT/UNAM

PROP 151: (Steve motions, Ruby 2nds)

OPPOSE/UNAM

PROP 152: (Steve motions, Ben 2nd)

OPPOSE/UNAM

End of Proposals.

Karma asks if any AC members have other comments.

Steve would like to thank the chair for having this separate meeting, and not voting at the last meeting.

Mike thanks Karma for putting so much energy into these issues and comments that she is doing a great job.

We are building a great team, and are building relationships with other AC's and other villages.

Karma and Ben are going to BOF in Feb, Andy is going to represent the ERAC 20-25th of Feb.

Adjournment: (Ben motions, Steve 2nd) 2:08 pm

Minutes Recorded By: 

Michelle
Becker

Minutes Approved By: 

Date: 2-6-23

Alaska Board of Fisheries: Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Island/Chignik

February 20-25, 2022 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support/ Support as amended/ Oppose/N o Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (pros & cons), Voting Notes, Amendments
<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>			
<u>98</u>	Modify waters closed to subsistence fishing for salmon to increase access for subsistence users who are not commercial salmon fishery permit holders.		
No Action			Not enough information to support or oppose
<u>99</u>	Prohibit retention of king salmon and establish closed areas in the King Salmon River and Ridgerunner Creek.		
No Action			Same as above. 99-104 Outside our area, ADFG staff present were unable to comment or offer background as it's not Yukon management area.
<u>100</u>	Prohibit retention of king salmon in King Salmon and Milky Rivers and Ridgerunner Creek.		
No Action			
<u>101</u>	Prohibit retention of king salmon in King Salmon River and Ridgerunner Creek.		
No Action			
<u>102</u>	Prohibit retention of king salmon in King Salmon River and tributaries of Bear River.		
No Action			
<u>103</u>	Reduce the bag and possession limit for coho and sockeye salmon in the salt waters and freshwater drainages of Cold Bay.		
No Action			
<u>104</u>	Repeal the closed water provisions for salmon fishing in Swanson Lagoon within the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area.		
No Action			
<u>105</u>	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to reflect changes to Chignik River sockeye salmon escapement goals.		
OPPOSE		6	We do not support the combining of any salmon escapement goals, OR the lowering of any salmon escapement goals.
<u>106</u>	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to increase inriver escapement of sockeye salmon prior to opening a commercial fishery by emergency order.		

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support/ Support as amended/ Oppose/N o Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (pros & cons), Voting Notes, Amendments
SUPPORT	6		Supporting weir passage of 40,000 before commercial periods open. This proposal benefits escapement and subsistence needs.
<u>107</u>	Modify the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to allow more commercial fishing time by opening commercial salmon fishing periods regardless of sockeye salmon escapement.		
OPPOSE		6	We oppose increasing any commercial fishing time in Area M, as this cannot serve to reduce the interception of AYK-bound Salmon that are failing to meet established escapement goals throughout Western Alaska rivers, and where subsistence Salmon fishing has been closed or dramatically limited for many years. Increasing commercial salmon fishing times in interception fisheries is contrary to the precautionary management principle outlined in the Policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries (5 AAC 39.222), the Policy for management of mixed stock salmon fisheries (5 AAC 39.221), the Policy for statewide salmon escapement goals (5 AAC 39.223) and the Subsistence use and allocation of fish and game statute AS 16.05.258
<u>108</u>	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to implement commercial salmon fishing periods in June.		
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>109</u>	Amend the Chignik Area Management Plan to allow period openings to harvest more salmon in the Central District and repeal the inriver run goal in August and September.		
SUPPORT	6		We support increasing getting more Salmon to the spawning grounds within the Chignik Management area, and the restoration of small Salmon tributaries.
<u>110</u>	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to restrict commercial fishing periods in Chignik Lagoon until the escapement goal has been met.		
No Action			This proposal asks for something that is already in practice.
<u>111</u>	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to increase commercial salmon fishing time and area in the Eastern District in August.		
OPPOSE	6		We do not support increasing commercial fishing opportunities in Area M.

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Support/ Support as amended/ Oppose/N o Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (pros & cons), Voting Notes, Amendments
112	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to include a harvest cap in the Eastern District to reduce commercial salmon fishing time.		
OPPOSE	6		See Comment on Proposal 107
113	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to allow post-June commercial salmon fishing periods.		
OPPOSE	6		See Comment on Proposal 107
114	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to allow post-June commercial salmon fishing periods.		
OPPOSE	6		See Comment on Proposal 107
115	Amend the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan so that pink, chum and coho salmon stocks in the Western and Perryville Sections of Registration Area L will be managed based on the strength of the pink, chum, and coho salmon stocks in the Stepovak and Shumagin Islands Sections of Registration Area M.		
OPPOSE	6		See Comment on Proposal 107
116	Modify the Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan to manage the Western and Perryville Districts of Registration Area L based on the strength of the pink, chum, and coho salmon stocks in the Southeast District Mainland (SEDM) Section of Registration Area M.		
OPPOSE	6		See Comment on Proposal 107
117	Amend the fishing districts, sections, and subsections to increase fishing time and area by creating new sections in outside waters of the Chignik Management Area.		
OPPOSE	6		See Comment on Proposal 107
118	Amend the districts, sections and subsections and the management plan to increase commercial fishing time and area in the Western and Perryville Districts in August.		
OPPOSE	6		We do not support increasing commercial fishing opportunities in Area M.
119	Amend allowable gear in the Chignik Management Area to include troll gear, create a management plan to include a commercial troll fishery and amend regulations in Chapter 29 Salmon Troll Fishery to include the Chignik Management Area.		
No Action			Not enough information
120	Modify fishing periods in the Northern District.		
No Action			Not enough information
121	Amend the fishing season in the Three Hills Section to increase potential fishing time and aligning sections to similar fishing periods.		

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OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>122</u>			Amend fishing seasons to allow more commercial fishing time by allowing fishing periods in the Cinder River Section.
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>123</u>			Amend fishing seasons to allow more fishing time and area for set net gear in the Cinder River Section.
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>124</u>			Amend fishing seasons, fishing periods and gear to allow more commercial fishing time to all Registration Area M gear types in the Cinder River Section.
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>125</u>			Amend closed waters to change the boundary line in the Outer Port Heiden Section.
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>126</u>			Amend closed waters and Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time and area in the Outer Port Heiden Section.
No Action			Not enough Information
<u>127</u>			Amend fishing seasons to increase fishing time in the Caribou Flats Section.
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>128</u>			Amend Gillnet specifications and operations to reduce commercial salmon harvest in the North Peninsula using gillnet depth reductions.
No Action			
<u>129</u>			Allow use of monofilament gillnet web in the Northern District.
No Action			
<u>130</u>			Amend the Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan to allow more fishing time in the Northwest Stepovak Section.
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>131</u>			Amend the Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan to allow commercial salmon fishing with set gillnet gear, and after July 11, purse seine gear concurrent to open commercial fishing periods for salmon in the Chignik Management Area.
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support/ Support as amended/ Oppose/N o Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (pros & cons), Voting Notes, Amendments
<u>132</u>	Amend the Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan to reflect changes to Chignik River sockeye salmon escapement goals.		
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>133</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time and area for purse seine gear.		
SUPPORT	6		We support all proposals which reduce Area M salmon interception, but we prefer to Adopt Proposal 140 which is a compromise proposal relative to the others before BOF at this time.
<u>134</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133
<u>135</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumigan Islands Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time in the Shumagin Islands Section.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133
<u>136</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to implement a chum salmon harvest cap to reduce commercial fishing time.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133
<u>137</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133
<u>138</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to require the department to place observers onboard commercial salmon fishing vessels.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133. Also some AC members raised the point that they strongly support the observer program, even if this proposal fails we would like to see the observer program and the funding required for it go to the Legislature. Strong concerns about practices like "chum chucking".
<u>139</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to restrict commercial salmon fishing time.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support/ Support as amended/ Oppose/N o Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (pros & cons), Voting Notes, Amendments
<u>140</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to reduce commercial salmon fishing time.		
SUPPORT	6		We unanimously support Proposal 140. We feel this proposal offers the best option to reduce commercial fishing time while compromising with Area M commercial fishermen.
<u>141</u>	Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to require the department to manage the June fishery by emergency order to close those areas within the management plan. Amend 5 AAC 09.330. Gear. to allow other gear types to be used in the commercial fishery.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133
<u>142</u>	Amend South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan and Post-June Salmon Management Plan to allow more fishing time for set gillnet gear only.		
No Action			Not enough information
<u>143</u>	Amend the Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula to close the set gillnet fishery in response to department immature salmon assessment.		
SUPPORT	6		We support any proposal that serves to try to protect immature salmon, especially immature Chinook salmon.
<u>144</u>	Amend the Post-June Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula to allow for fishing periods starting August 1 in the Southeastern and South Central Districts.		
OPPOSE		6	See comment on Proposal 107
<u>145</u>	Amend the Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula to increase commercial salmon fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula.		
OPPOSE		6	See comment on Proposal 107
<u>146</u>	Amend the Post-June Salmon Management for the South Alaska Peninsula to increase commercial salmon fishing periods.		
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>147</u>	Amend the Post-June Salmon Management for the South Alaska Peninsula to increase commercial salmon fishing periods for set gillnet gear.		
OPPOSE		6	See Comment on Proposal 107
<u>148</u>	Amend a suite of management plans to reduce commercial fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula area.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133

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Support/ Support as amended/ Oppose/N o Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (pros & cons), Voting Notes, Amendments
<u>149</u>	Amend management plans for the South Alaska Peninsula area to reduce commercial fishing time.		
SUPPORT	6		See comment on Proposal 133
<u>150</u>	Amend districts and sections, Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan and South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan by including the Volcano Bay Section of the Southwestern District into the South Central District.		
SUPPORT	6		We support this proposal because this area had NOT been intercepting salmon from the 1970's until 2004 when the BOF dramatically expanded the Area M salmon interception fisheries. Passage of this proposal would restore some of those protections.
<u>151</u>	Amend gillnet specifications and operations to allow offshore anchoring of the up to 25 fathom seine web lead.		
OPPOSE		6	We oppose this proposal because it serves to increase the catch capability of nets and the seine web used for leads. These leads are killing immature salmon, especially immature Chinook salmon, when gilled in the seine web.
<u>152</u>	Amend the closed water boundary in Stepovak Bay to increase commercial fishing area in the Stepovak Flats Section.		
OPPOSE		6	See comment on Proposal 107

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Michelle Becker
 Minutes Approved By: _____
 Date: 2-6-23