

# Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

## 3/15/2023

I. Call to Order: 1832 pm by Jacob White

### II. Roll Call

	<u>CHAIR</u>	<u>VICE-CHAIR</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>				
	Jacob White	Rusty Craig	Jeff Lipscomb	Carl Taylor	Alan Waldo	Vern Aiton	Tisha Kennell
Present	<b>X</b>			<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Absent							
Abs/Excused		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>				
	Robert Matthews	Earl McNabb	Tim Webb	Mike Bender	<u>ALTERNATE</u> Don Quarberg	<u>ALTERNATE</u> Tony Williams	
Present	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
Absent							
Abs/Excused							

Number Needed for G on AC: **6 -Quorum?**      **YES x**      **NO**

III. Introduction of Guests Mark Summerville of Glennallen, Tracy Hanson, Klause Wuttig, Andy Gryska All from Glennallen ADF&G

Went over proposals. 164-Advised that if they needed in season reporting that they had the power to do that but have not seen a need.

165- Proposal to limit commercial guides on the river. Passed statewide but there is an exemption.

166- Establish state wide bag limit for personal use fin fish fisheries. Concerns about being able to go to several personal use fisheries to get your bag limit. Managing based on stocks. If there is surplus they should be able to manage on that. You can go to upper Cook Inlet then to copper to get limit and use both limits. The data shows the average harvest shows there is no gross misuse of the resource.

167- In season reporting. As said before, the department doesn't need that info that early and would cost a lot to hire staff to process that info.

Jacob asked Mark for information on the Kings on the copper. Sockeye salmon Results showed that overall forecast looks better than expected and better than last year but not as good as some years.

Forecast is for 1.75 million. Lot of variability of marine survival.

Summer passage in river goal 650,000 fish. Last year 750,000, was above 5 year and below 10 year medium.

Commercial harvest forecast is just under 1 million. Last year they caught around 600,000 forecast to catch 700,000

Last five years the harvest in Cordova was 400,000 and ten year was 1.2 million.

Chitna personal use 160,000 fish caught. Forecast was 126,000.

Above the bridge just under 60,000 caught in the subsistence fishery and was below forecast but not due to lack of fish, had fewer permits fishing and high water and fish were delayed.

Gulkana hatchery not performing well over the last 5-6 years expected forecast of 50-60,000. They were below their egg take goal.

Spawning escapement doing well at about 526,000. Little lower than the 10 year average

King Salmon forecast is 53,000, last year was 51,000. Seeing an improving trend. 2 strong brood years and spawning escapement goals. Better than the rest of the state. 38,000 back into river.

Commercial harvest was about 12,000 with commercial fleet out in the closure area. Expecting the commercial manager to open the closed area this year. 2,300 caught in personal use fishery. Up river escapement did well, goal changed from 24,000 to a range of 21,000 to 31,000, they are tracking 29,000. This is a little below 5 year and higher than 10 year.

IV. Chair's Comments: none

VI. Comments/Concerns of Public: none

V. VII. Comments/Concerns of AC Members

(Note: If concerns/comments need more than 5 minutes, please ask to have the item placed on the agenda to be discussed later in the meeting)

VI. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brandy and Clint

Brandy, 2023 sport fishing regs are out. Projects for this area, abundance area for arctic grayling and looking at size estimates, and Tangle lakes abundance estimate on lake trout. Finished a telemetry project; upper Tangle is a closed population.

Clint; will be doing a browse survey. Have 10 bison collars ordered. Will be getting them out this summer. Small game surveys, bison range burn and general bison range activities. Vern asked if they would be using a helicopter for captures and if they were looking for a certain age. Clint advised that they were going to take what was there to collar. Nothing specific but hoping for younger cows. Collars last about 5-6 years. Will be putting orange on the collars to prevent them from being shot. Grouse counts will be going on, Ptarmigan and hare counts also.

VII. Guests Present:

VIII. Approval of Agenda: Mike moved and Tisha seconded.

IX. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Mike moved and Vern seconded.

X. ADF&G Staff Reports

Bob Schmidt, Wildlife Conservation

Old Business

None

XI. New Business

Bear Proposal presented. Read for the recording. One recommendation was to strike Grizzly bear comment in the very beginning. Add that every unit is baiting around this small area and it has become a sanctuary for grizzly bears, and that we will not have support on this matter from the department and that we should consider adding that it be a registration hunt. Earl advised that ADF&G can do this if they so choose, and that we should not go back on what we asked for last time as we have already done this and accepted 20D north. Don't get away from our original intent of opening the entire area. It was approved that we would not enter that.

General moose season to go to a registration hunt.

Youth proposal conversation included discussion about terminology of "any moose". Need to work wording to include bull tags when the population would allow. Jacob will finalize the language on this. Dates September 16-25. Looking to make a quality hunt for the youth hunters. Discussion of what areas to include on this hunt. Bulls will be included in a surplus year, will depend on survey. Need to include "cows without calves". Will be a walk in hunt.

Resending proposal 149. Repeal 149 was the consensus. Jacob is reaching out to Tok to see what they are doing. We should ask for repeal for our area and other areas can join us in this request if they want to. Went through results from draw. It was recommended that if the other units agree on the resending of this proposal that it should be a combined proposal by all of the units.

XII. Set next meeting date: April 19 2023

XIII. Other:

Elections will be done in May.

Adjournment: 2005 hours

Minutes Recorded By: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_