

**PWS/Valdez Advisory Committee
December 18, 2023
Zoom**

- I. Call to Order: 6:00 pm by Nicholas Crump
- II. Roll Call
Members Present: Brett Wilbanks, Bruce Bowman, Dan Eames

Members Absent (Excused):
Members Absent (Unexcused): Hope Roberts
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 3
List of User Groups Present:
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Fari Fernandez
- IV. Guests Present: ?
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Reports
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - c. Others
- VII. Public Comment
- VIII. Old Business
 - Review AC submitted comments for Proposal 43
- IX. New Business
 - Kodiak Proposal 59
 - Other Proposal brought before the committee.
- X. Select representative for board meeting: N/A
- XI. Set next meeting date:
 - January _19th____ for Elections
- XII. Other

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Kodiak Meeting Proposals January 9-12, 2024 Kodiak, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<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>			
59	<p>Amend Basic Management Plans: 5 AAC 40.820. Basic Management Plans. Amend Basic Management Plans as follows: Reduce hatchery production to 25% of the year 2000 production as promised in 2000.</p> <p>What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?</p> <p>There is an over-production of hatchery pink salmon that threatens wild Alaska stocks. In 1996 Elfin Cove Advisory Committee put in a proposal to restrict hatchery production according to the original intent of rehabilitating wild salmon runs. They wanted a substantial reduction in current hatchery production. The hatchery managers complained the Board did not have the authority to set their production. After a thorough examination (approximately one year), the Attorney General ruled the Board does have the authority to regulate the number of eggs taken for production. The Board deferred the proposal and formed a hatchery committee to gather information. This committee was comprised of Board members Dan Coffey, Virgil Umphenour and Grant Miller. It took three years, a full Board cycle, with meetings in every region of the state, to complete the report. The proposal was scheduled for the January- February 2000, a super meeting of Bristol Bay, AYK and Area M. The hatchery management met with the Governor and proffered that if the Board would not take up the proposal, they would reduce their production by 25%. The Board meeting lasted 26 days, 10-16 hours a day, accepting the promise from the hatchery managers in the interest of time. The marine productivity is currently in a very low cycle. The wild salmon are starving, many small systems are extirpated. Most of AYK stocks are not meeting escapement goals and have very little or no harvest of Chinook, chum and coho salmon. Hundreds of science papers indicate over production of hatchery pink salmon as a potential cause of declines in run strength and size for Alaska wild salmon stocks. The purpose of this proposal is strictly conservation, to hold the hatcheries to their 2000 promise. The Board should require a substantial reduction in hatchery production so wild fish don't have to compete with hatchery fish for food.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F23-152)</p>		
No Action			Proposal removed from agenda at LCI board meeting.

LCI Proposal- PWS/Valdez AC Comments Submitted to LCI Meeting

43	Amend Basic Management Plans as follows (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
Oppose	0	3	The committee discussion concluded that the current management of Hatcheries is extremely comprehensive and interactive to include the ADFG, stakeholders and hatchery PNP operators. This proposal seeks to compromise the current management approach without a basis in science or evidence that it would have any positive impact on wild stocks. Concern that a significantly lowered cap of eggs would destabilize and negatively affect hatchery operations and commercial fisheries was unanimously viewed as undesirable and unacceptable. Additional concerns were voiced regarding the legality of this action lacking legitimacy.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Bruce Bowman

Minutes Approved By: _____

Date: _____