

Tyonek Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting

27 January 2024/ 12:00 PM / Tyonek Native Corp. Office and ZOOM

Attendees

AC Members - Chair - Donald Standifer Jr., Vice Chair - Alex Pfoff, Secretary - Ann Maire Standifer, John Standifer, Don Standifer Sr., Donald Standifer III, Terry Jorgensen

Guests - Nicole Schmidt - Alaska Wildlife Alliance, Fari Fernandez - ADF&G, Julie Bismark, Darleen Mishakoff, Lindsay Bismark.

Open floor to agenda additions. Nicole would like to speak on proposals 216 and 217. (Hooligan proposals)

Agenda

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Discussion of Tyonek AC Proposals submitted. Proceed with current agenda items

New Business

2. Chairman's Report - Would like to focus on proposals related to our area and our fishery. Gives floor to Nicky Schmidt with AWA.
3. Nicky Schmidt, Alaska Wildlife Alliance - Goal for Beluga population is to return to stable/thriving. Submitted proposal 216 without knowledge of Tyonek AC submitting 217. Open to question - Donald Standifer Sr. asks if we can get support from AWA on Tyonek proposals 131 and 142. Donald gives a history of where Tyonek is coming from in motivation for these proposals. Nicky encouraged attendance to Anchorage AC meeting to any who would be available to speak on these matters. Nicky brings up recent study that indicates if Beluga have a clean environment with ample access to food the population could rebound. Don Sr. added that Tyonek is eligible to participate in the hooligan fishery but not one of the residents has. They do participate in personal/subsistence use. Followed by a discussion on history of the fishery, its participants and use of the resources. Discussion on comments of proposals 216 and 217, closure versus reduction. Discussion about wording of Proposal 217 to make it clear that it is to repeal commercial smelt fishery, but not affect personal/subsistence use.

4. Chair opens the floor to discussion on current proposals. Chair gives floor to Alex Pfoff, turns discussion to proposals in 206 - 218 range, and 121, 122 123 etc. Proposes starting with proposals starting at 204.
5. Proposal 204 discussion - Does hook and line imply attempting to snag fish with hook and line? Don Sr. brings up how historically Tyonek was pushed to use hook and line for subsistence, but Tyonek gets suspicious about referring to hook and line fishing as 'subsistence' use. Tends to be abused by non-residents and sport users looking to increase bag limits. Terry Jorgensen - discussion how power of the Tyonek AC is all about having a say in committee during board meeting, focus on your main proposals. Discussion on what AC member can represent the AC during the BOF meeting. Called proposal 204 to a vote. Motion by Don Sr. to oppose 204, second by Alex. Called to vote: Unanimous opposition.
6. Proposal 205 discussion - Motion to oppose 205 by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr., Unanimous opposition.
7. Proposal 206 discussion - Cap on king salmon harvest reduction from 12500 to 2000. Alex - harvest cap is contradictory to current management status, Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Don. Unanimous opposition.
8. Proposal 193 discussion - Doesn't allow for removal of catch and release king salmon to be removed from the water. Alex made motion to support proposal 193, 2nd by Don Sr., unanimous support.
9. Proposal 207 discussion - Limit commercial harvest of kings to 15% of all user groups. Gives unnecessary dominance to sport users. Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr., unanimous opposition.
10. Proposal 208 discussion - Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by John Standifer, Unanimous opposition.
11. Proposal 209 called directly to a vote by Alex, read by Don Jr., (Close the commercial king salmon fishery) Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Ann Marie. Unanimous opposition.
12. Proposal 210 discussion - Weirs are located upstream of us and are not good management tools because counts occur too late. Motion to oppose by John, 2nd by Alex. Unanimous opposition.
13. Ann made motion to break, unanimous consent (Break), Meeting called back to order at
14. Proposal 211 - started discussion, withheld action and further discussion until we hear from Northern District Set Netters Association. Alex makes recommendation to hold off on taking action on proposal 211 until further feedback. No action on 211 unanimous.
15. Proposal 212 discussion - Motion to oppose proposal 212 by Alex, 2nd by John, unanimous opposition.
16. Proposal 213 discussion - Harvest determined by dipnetters not a good management strategy. Motion to oppose proposal 213 by Alex, 2nd by Ann Marie, unanimous opposition.

17. Proposal 214 discussion - Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by John. Unanimous opposition.
18. Proposal 215 discussion - related to the Tyonek AC proposal, but Terry (author) is no longer present to discuss and explain the proposal. Decided to hold off on action until feedback from Terry and/or Kevin (authors). Motion to move on to 216, unanimous. No action on 215 currently.
19. Proposal 216 discussion - We would like to see the fishery repealed, should 216 be supported if 217 doesn't pass. Discussion of supporting 'half measures.' Don Sr. - the will of the people, abundance will decrease and enough is enough, I side with the Beluga and the King Salmon. Don Jr. - we should stick the proposal that we put forward, 100 ton is a lot and we say too much. Repeal the fishery. 216 called to a vote by Ann Marie, 2nd by Don Sr. . Support - 1, Oppose - 5. AC stands in opposition to proposal 216.
20. Proposal 217 - Motion by Alex to amend to clarify that this related to commercial use only, not subsistence or personal use. 2nd by Ann, unanimous consent. Further discussion, removing 'Beluga' from nomenclature of the AC name. ("The Tyonek/Beluga Fish and Game Advisory Committee") Motion by Alex to remove 'Beluga' from the title, 2nd by Donald III, unanimous consent. (2 spots on proposal)
21. Proposal 218 discussion - No action.
22. Chair opens floor to other proposals, Alex recommends scheduling another meeting to discuss other proposals and reopen previously discussed proposals to allow for input from authors and others. Discussion on meeting one week from today, allow others to go over proposal book. Don and John attended town hall meeting and represented Tyonek AC and our current proposals, and all passed unanimously. Don to Fari - How can we document as public participation? Fari - the council can submit their own comments to the BOF on their own behalf. Don - they whole heartedly endorsed our proposals and had a lot of good comments.
23. Deadline for ontime comments Feb 8th, discussion on scheduling a follow-up meeting. Chair Donald Jr. proposes- Feb 3rd 1200hrs? Unanimous consent. On agenda for this meeting - 215, 211, 126, 132, 136, 137, 143 & 43.
24. Discussion on how many people we can send to board meeting, per diem etc. Fari - will get back to us. Don Jr. suggested getting president of council to go to meeting.
25. Motion to adjourn by Don Sr., 2nd by Alex, unanimous consent.

Action Items

1. See attached document 'Action Items January 27th'

Next Meeting Agenda

Discuss and take action on proposals 126, 127, 132, 136, 137, 139, 140, 143, 43, 211 and 215