

**Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee
 Tuesday, October 7th at 11:00am
 Zoom**

I. Call to Order

Chair Jacob Ivanoff called the meeting to order at 11:24 am.

II. Roll Call (7 quorum)

First Name	Community	Present/ Excused/ Unexcused
Jacob Ivanoff	Unalakleet	Present
Renae Ivanoff	Unalakleet	Present
Kelsi Ivanoff	Unalakleet	Present
Wes Jones	Unalakleet	Present
Gary Eckenweller	Unalakleet	Present
Perry Burress	Unalakleet	Unexcused
Morris Nassuk	Koyuk	Present
Randy Takak	Shaktoolik	Excused
Matilda Hardy	Shaktoolik	Unexcused
George Flynn	Stebbins	Unexcused
Dominic Richardson	St. Michael	Present
Johnny Richardson	Undesignated, St. Michael	Present
Shyler Johnson	Alternate, Unalakleet	Excused
Vacant	Stebbins	
Vacant	St. Michael	
Vacant	Koyuk	

III. Fish and Game Staff Present

Sara Henslee, Sam Kirby, Kevin Clark, Luke Henslee, Patrick Landback, Jenefer Bell, Cody Watkins

IV. Guests Present

Elliot Nassuk, Mitchell Wisniewski

V. Approval of Agenda

Morris Nassuk made a motion, seconded by Wes Jones to approve the agenda with the ability to amend as needed. There was no opposition.

VI. Elections:

- a. 2 seats from Koyuk – Morris Nassuk, Elliot Nassuk
- b. 1 seat from Unalakleet – Wes Jones

- c. 1 seat from Shaktoolik – open
- d. 1 seat from St. Michael – Johnny Richardson
- e. 1 seat from Stebbins – Morris Nashoanak
- f. 1 Undesignated seat – Shyler Johnson
- g. 1 Alternate seat – Gage Ivanoff

Jacob Ivanoff nominated Morris Nassuk and Wes Jones to retain their Koyuk and Unalakleet seats, respectively. Renae nominated Johnny Richardson to be reseeded in the St Michael seat. Wes Jones nominated Shyler Johnson to the undesignated seat. Morris Nashoanak was recommended and nominated by the tri-organizations for the Stebbins seat. Kelsi Ivanoff nominated Gage Ivanoff for the alternate seat.

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Renae Ivanoff to approve nominations as a block and the election of members. The question was called. There was no opposition.

Johnny Richardson moved, seconded by Renae Ivanoff to approve the nomination of Gage Ivanoff to the alternate seat. The question was called. There was no opposition.

VII. Elections: Chair, Vice chair, Secretary

Morris Nassuk moved, seconded by Wes Jones for Jacob Ivanoff, Morris Nassuk, and Renae Ivanoff to retain their seats as Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, respectively. The question was called. There was no opposition.

VIII. New Business

- a. Alaska Board of Fisheries – Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim Finfish
Refer to Table below for discussions on the following proposals – 28, 33, 34, 36, 37, and 38.

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Wes Jones to support proposal 28. The question was called. Motion passed 8 – 0.

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Johnny Richardson to support proposal 33, 34, and 37 as a block. The question was called. Motion passed 8 – 0.

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Morris Nassuk to support proposal 36. The question was called. Motion failed 3 – 2 – 3.

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Renae Ivanoff to take no action on proposal 29, 30, 31, 32, 35 and 38. The question was called. Motion passed 8 -0.

- b. Alaska Board of Fisheries – Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Island/Chignik Finfish
Refer to Table below for the following discussions on the following proposals – 132, 147, and 152.

Wes Jones moved, seconded by Kelsi Ivanoff to support proposal 132, 147, and 152 as a block. The question was called. Motion passed 8 – 0.

- c. Alaska Board of Game – Southcentral Region
Refer to Table below for the following discussions on proposal 251.

Rena Ivanoff moved, seconded by Morris Nassuk to support proposal 251. The question was called. Motion passed 8 – 0.

IX. Reports

- a. Chair’s report: Overview of the Statewide BOF meeting in March
On behalf of Chair Jacob Ivanoff, Wes Jones gave an update on the Norton Sound crab related proposals submitted before the Board of Fisheries and noted that all proposals failed.
- b. ADF&G
 - i. Fisheries Report
Kevin Clark summarized the Norton Sound-Port Clarence salmon season and commercial crab fisheries. There were questions and discussion on sustainable escapement goals for Shaktoolik River and the sport fishery related project on egg collecting activities occurring in the Unalakleet River drainage.
 - ii. Wildlife Report
Sara Henslee provided an update on the RM841 hunt, reporting 63 moose being harvested in game management unit 22A. She also gave a recap on the moose survey that took place along the Unalakleet River drainage during the spring of 2024, reporting a moose population estimate of 972 noting an average recruitment. This estimate is an increase from the 2021 survey of 767 moose. It was brought to the Department’s attention that there was a possibility that local hunters were hunting unknowingly or knowingly hunting in the adjacent game management unit with potential reporting issues.
- c. Jen Bell’s Sonar Project on the Unalakleet River
Jennefer Bell gave a summary of ADF&G’s objective to continue a long-term salmon monitoring program on the Unalakleet River drainage to establish the necessary information for drainage wide salmon escapement. ADF&G is seeking funds to purchase the necessary equipment to operate a sonar project in supplement of the Unalakleet River Weir as it is no longer operational. She has requested support from the Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee to provide a letter of support for outside entity funding.

Renae Ivanoff made a motion, seconded by Wes Jones for the Southern Norton Sound Advisory committee to provide a letter of support for the purchase of necessary equipment to operate a sonar project on the Unalakleet River. The question was called. There was no opposition.

d. Comments for upcoming meetings

- i. Work Session – comment deadline Oct 13, 2025
- ii. AYK – comment deadline Nov 3, 2025
- iii. Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Island / Chignik Finfish – comment deadline Feb 3, 2026

X. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Morris Nassuk for Jacob Ivanoff to attend the Board of Fisheries meeting occurring in November 18 – 22, 2025. The question was called. There was no opposition.

XII. Set next meeting date

The next meeting date is anticipated April 2026.

XIII. Adjournment

Kelsi Ivanoff moved, seconded by Morris Nassuk to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:03 pm.

Minutes Recorded By: Renae Ivanoff

Minutes Approved By: Jacob Ivanoff

Date: 10/22/2025



Renae Ivanoff

Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim Finfish
November 18-22, 2025, | Fairbanks, AK
Deadline for comment Nov 3rd

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>			
28	Lawful gear and gear specifications. Define beach seine gear specifications in effect when Norton Sound Port Clarence subsistence fisheries are closed and immediately reopened with the non-retention of specific salmon species...		
	8	0	There was some concern from a couple committee members that these lawful gear and gear specifications for defining beach seine gear will affect subsistence users that have limited access to gear type resources if this regulation were to pass.
29	Subsistence fishing permit; annual limits for salmon. Establish a seasonal harvest limit of 25 sockeye salmon for the Sinuk River subsistence fishery...		
No Action			
30	Waters closed to subsistence fishing. Increase water closed to subsistence fishing in the Sinuk River...		
No action			
31	Waters closed to subsistence fishing. Expand water closed to subsistence fishing for salmon in the Sinuk River...		
No Action			
32	Fishing season and periods. Repeal the subsistence fishing schedule in the marine water of west of Cape Nome in Subdistrict 1 of the Norton Sound District...		
No action			
33	Limitation of subsistence fishing gear. Prohibit the retention of king salmon when subsistence fishing with beach seine in the Pilgrim River....		
	8	0	The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee would like to support proposals that the Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee has endorsed to support the long-term sustainability of such a resource.

Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim Finfish
November 18-22, 2025, | Fairbanks, AK
Deadline for comment Nov 3rd

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
34	Subsistence fishing permit; annual limits for salmon. Reduce the subsistence fishing annual limit for the Pilgrim River king salmon...		
	8	0	The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee would like to support proposals that the Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee has endorsed to support the long-term sustainability of such a resource.
35	Limitations on subsistence fishing gear. Repeal the requirement for hook and line subsistence fishermen to follow sport fishing bag and possession limits in the northern Norton Sound area....		
No action			
36	Subdistricts 5 and 6 of Norton Sound District and the Unalakleet River King Salmon Management Plan. Allow catch and release sport fishing for king salmon in the Unalakleet River drainage when the subsistence fishery is closed to the retention of kings...		
3 Abstained	2	3	There were two committee members that were in support of allowing catch and release sport fishing for king salmon in the Unalakleet River drainage, three committee members that abstained, and three committee members that were opposed to protect the long-term sustainability of such a vital resource that is an already depressed state not only in Norton Sound, but the Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim as a whole. There was discussion on the King salmon management plan, effective regulatory date of actions, and clarifying regulatory language.
37	Seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the Northern Area. Close sport fishing for kings salmon in the Pilgrim River....		
	8	0	The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee would like to support proposals that the Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee has endorsed to support the long-term sustainability of such a resource.
38	Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish. Modify hook size specifications when sport fishing for salmon in the Northwestern Management Area....		
No action			

Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Islands / Bering Sea and Chignik Pacific Cod

February 18-24, 2026, | Anchorage, AK

Deadline for comment Feb 3rd

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>			
132	South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan. Amend the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to reduce commercial fishing time for purse seine and drift gillnet gear...		
	8	0	The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee would like to support proposals that have the highest chance of success with a focused approach, clear and compelling language, and a well-defined plan with proof of feasibility and the SNSAC believes that this proposal exemplifies that.
147	Gillnet specifications and operations. Reduce maximum gillnet depth to 70 meshes...		
	8	0	The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee would like to support proposals that have the highest chance of success with a focused approach, clear and compelling language, and a well-defined plan with proof of feasibility and the SNSAC believes that this proposal exemplifies that.
152	Seine specifications and operations. Amend the seine specification to reduce the allowable size gear...		
	8	0	The Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee would like to support proposals that have the highest chance of success with a focused approach, clear and compelling language, and a well-defined plan with proof of feasibility and the SNSAC believes that this proposal exemplifies that.

Southcentral Region: Game Management Units 6, 7, 8, 14C, 15
 March 20-25, 2026, | Kodiak, AK
 Deadline for comment March 6th

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
<p><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></p>			
251	Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bears in Unit 18, 22, 23, and 26A		
	8	0	Beneficial for resident bear hunters in Unit 22 to reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions as brown bear harvest rates are low and well within the sustainable yield limits and have been exempt in Unit 22 for over 20 years.