



Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Board of Fisheries

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ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
January 12-16, 2016
ARCTIC / YUKON / KUSKOKWIM FINFISH
 Alpine Lodge, Fairbanks

PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

(This summary is informational only. The actions indicated below will have legal affects in regulations that provide the sole legal action of the board.)

Board Members Present

Tom Kluberton, Chair
 Fritz Johnson
 Orville Huntington
 Robert Mumford

John Jensen, Vice-Chair
 Sue Jeffrey
 Reed Morisky

*C=Carried, F=Failed, C/A=Carried as Amended, F/A=Failed as Amended, N/A=No Action,
 T=Tabled*

SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	Proposal	Description	
KUSKOKWIM SALMON AND HERRING (16 Proposals)			
<i>Kuskokwim Salmon Management Plan (3 proposals): 92 - 94</i>			
C/A (7-0)	92	Modify the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan to manage the king salmon subsistence fishery based on the Bethel Test Fishery. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 38)</i>	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 0:03:11
N/A (7-0)	93	Modify the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan to establish an inriver run goal of king salmon above the Bethel Test Fishery. <i>(No action taken based on proposer’s request to withdraw the proposal through RC 51 and also based on action taken on Proposal 92.)</i>	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 0:15:02
N/A (7-0)	94	Establish an inriver run goal for the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 92.)</i>	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 0:15:44
<i>Subsistence Salmon (7 proposals): 222, 95 - 100</i>			
N/A	96	Separate the amounts necessary for subsistence use of king salmon	Day 4, January 15,



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(7-0)		into three parts on the Kuskokwim River. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 92.)</i>	2016 – 0:16:16
T (7-0)	222	Establish a permit system for regulating the king salmon subsistence fishery during times of low king salmon runs. <i>(Tabled at the request of Kuskokwim representatives at the meeting in an effort to allow more time to communicate with communities and residents. The Board asked the Division of Subsistence to signal to the Board when the Kuskokwim users were prepared to have Proposal 222 removed from the table and deliberated on.)</i>	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 0:17:01
T (7-0)	95	Create a Tier II subsistence king salmon fishery in the Kuskokwim River. <i>(Tabled consistent with the action taken on Proposal 222.)</i>	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 0:43:35
N/A (7-0)	97	Create a permitting system for the king salmon subsistence fishery in the Kuskokwim River. <i>(Take no action based on action taken on Proposal 222 and 95.)</i>	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 0:57:29
C (7-0)	98	Establish descriptions of subsistence fishing sections for the Kuskokwim River during times of king salmon conservation.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 0:57:55
F (0-7)	99	Modify gear operation in the Kuskokwim River by limiting four-inch mesh subsistence gear to one gillnet per household.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 1:12:57
C (7-0)	100	Establish subsistence beach seine specifications in the Kuskokwim Area.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 1:29:56
Commercial Salmon (4 proposals): 101 - 104			
C (7-0)	101	Repeal Kuskokwim Area depth specifications for commercial gillnets greater than six-inch mesh.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 1:43:04
F (0-7)	102	Change gillnet mesh size from six inches or smaller to five and three-quarters inches or smaller in District 4 of the Kuskokwim Area.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 1:45:40
C (7-0)	103	Amend the Kuskokwim Area District 4 Salmon Management Plan to include District 5.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 2:09:10
F (0-7)	104	Increase the commercial fishing area in District 5 of the Kuskokwim Area.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 2:13:54
Sport Salmon (1 proposal): 105			
F (0-7)	105	Modify gear specifications to reduce king salmon harvest in the Kanektok and Arolik rivers.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 2:20:06
Commercial Herring (1 proposal): 106			
F (3-4)	106	Extend the Nelson Island herring fishing district from Atrnak Point toward Cape Vancouver.	Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 2:27:48
YUKON AREA SALMON (22 proposals)			



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<i>Yukon Management Plans (5 proposals): 107 - 111</i>			
F <i>(0-7)</i>	107	Close the Yukon River summer chum salmon commercial fishery to protect king salmon.	<i>Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 2:53:15</i>
C/A <i>(6-1)</i>	108	Reduce management triggers in the Yukon River Summer Chum Salmon Management Plan based on the run size of summer chum salmon. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 39.)</i>	<i>Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 3:05:25</i>
N/A <i>(7-0)</i>	109	Modify the Yukon River Summer Chum Salmon Management Plan triggers. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 108)</i>	<i>Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 3:23:41</i>
C/A <i>(4-3)</i>	110	Increase the commercial fishery threshold trigger in the Yukon River Drainage Fall Chum Salmon Management Plan. <i>(Amended to change the trigger to 550,000 chums)</i>	<i>Day 4, January 15, 2016 – 2:27:48</i>
N/A <i>(7-0)</i>	111	Eliminate the use of GHs in the Yukon River King Salmon Management Plan. <i>(No action taken based on the proposer’s request to withdraw the proposal under RC 24.)</i>	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 0:00:39</i>
<i>Yukon Subsistence (10 proposals): 112 – 121</i>			
F <i>(0-7)</i>	112	Allow all gear used in Yukon Area commercial fisheries to be allowed in Yukon Area subsistence fisheries.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 0:00:39</i>
F <i>(0-7)</i>	113	Prohibit the use of drift gillnets in the Yukon Area subsistence fishery and in the Yukon Area commercial fishery.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 0:11:27</i>
N/A <i>(7-0)</i>	114	Require subsistence salmon fishing permits in Yukon Area District 5 and set permit limits for king salmon during times of king salmon conservation. <i>(No action based on the cost and enforcement impracticability, and the board’s lack of authority.)</i>	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 0:25:25</i>
F <i>(1-6)</i>	115	Allow for the retention of king salmon less than 25 inches in length in Yukon Area fish wheel subsistence fisheries.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 0:30:22</i>
C/A <i>(7-0)</i>	116	During times of salmon conservation in the Yukon Area, require fish wheels with live boxes to be manned and require immediate release of the specified salmon. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 40.)</i>	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 0:50:56</i>
F <i>(0-7)</i>	117	Prohibit the use of beach seines in the Yukon Area subsistence salmon fishery and in the Yukon River and Anvik River summer chum salmon commercial fisheries.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 0:56:27</i>
C/A <i>(7-0)</i>	118	Establish specifications for a beach seine used for subsistence fishing in the Yukon Area. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 41).</i>	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:03:25</i>
C <i>(7-0)</i>	119	Require live release of king salmon from subsistence beach seines during times of king salmon conservation in the Yukon Area.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:07:33</i>
F <i>(1-6)</i>	120	Allow subsistence fall chum salmon fishing seven days per week in District 5 of the Yukon Area once a fall chum salmon commercial	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:09:36</i>



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		fishery is opened.	
C (7-0)	121	Expand the area of allowable subsistence drift gillnet fishing for chum salmon in Subdistrict 4-A of the Yukon Area.	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:18:31
<i>Yukon Commercial (7 proposals): 122 - 128</i>			
C (7-0)	122	Modify Yukon Area commercial set gillnet length specification to an aggregate length standard.	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:22:03
C/A (7-0)	123	Further define commercial beach seine specifications for summer chum salmon in the Yukon Area. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 42.)</i>	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:24:04
C (7-0)	124	Allow for six-inch or smaller mesh gillnets in the commercial salmon fishery in Yukon River District 6 by emergency order.	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:27:22
C/A (7-0)	125	Establish gillnet gear provisions to allow a directed pink salmon commercial fishery in districts 1–3 of the Yukon Area. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 43.)</i>	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:30:34
F/A (2-5)	126	Add purse seine gear as an allowable commercial salmon fishing gear to target summer chum salmon in districts 1–3 of the Yukon River during times of king salmon conservation. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 44.)</i>	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 1:48:15
N/A (7-0)	127	Expand the commercial fishing area of Yukon Area District 1. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 128.)</i>	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 2:40:32
C/A (7-0)	128	Extend commercial fishing three miles offshore and north to Point Romanof in District 1 of the Yukon Area. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 45.)</i>	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 2:26:43
NORTON SOUND-PORT CLARENCE AREA SALMON and AYK RESIDENT SPECIES			
<i>Norton Sound/Port Clarence Subsistence (4 proposals): 129 - 132</i>			
C (7-0)	129	In the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area during times of conservation, require the return of a specified salmon species immediately to the water unharmed when beach seining.	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 2:42:54
C (7-0)	130	Allow the restriction of gillnet mesh size during times of conservation for chum and king salmon in any portion of the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area.	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 3:06:02
C (7-0)	131	Increase subsistence fishing time with gillnets and beach seines in Subdistrict 1 of Norton Sound District. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 46.)</i>	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 3:10:27
C (7-0)	132	Add cast net as a legal subsistence fishing gear and allow both dip net and cast net gear to be used in all subsistence fisheries in the Norton	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 3:14:42



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		Sound-Port Clarence Area.	
<i>Norton Sound/Port Clarence Commercial (1 proposal): 133</i>			
C/A (7-0)	133	Allow the use of beach seines for commercial harvest of chum and pink salmon in Subdistricts 5 and 6 of the Norton Sound District during times of king salmon conservation. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 47.)</i>	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 3:19:51</i>
<i>Norton Sound/Yukon Area Boundary (1 proposal): 134</i>			
C (7-0)	134	Change the boundary line separating the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area and Yukon Area at Point Romanof in area and district descriptions. <i>(The boards provided intent it would like to delay implementation of the regulation until the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission agrees.)</i>	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 3:26:22</i>
<i>Norton Sound Crab Pot Limits (1 proposal): 223</i>			
C/A (7-0)	223	Establish an aggregate pot limit of no more than 20 pots per permit holder for the Norton Sound Section winter through-the-ice commercial fishery. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 48 and further amended to attach tags to the stake or near the upper end of the pot line.)</i>	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 3:34:35</i>
<i>AYK Resident Species Sport (6 proposals): 135 - 140</i>			
C (5-2)	135	Prohibit the use of set lines in Grizzly and Jack lakes.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 4:01:53</i>
F (0-7)	136	Allow only one fishing line per angler during the Fielding Lake winter fishery.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 4:21:18</i>
F (0-7)	137	Allow the use of bait during the winter fishery on Fielding Lake.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 4:28:42</i>
F (0-7)	138	Allow retention of Arctic grayling on the Chena River.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 4:21:18</i>
C (7-0)	139	Update the Tanana River Area stocked waters regulation. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 36.)</i>	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 4:40:56</i>
C (7-0)	140	Repeal Yukon River Area rainbow trout regulations.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 4:44:04</i>
<i>AYK Resident Species Subsistence (4 proposals): 141 – 144</i>			
C (7-0)	141	Recognize rod and reel fishing as a legal means for subsistence fishing in all of the Kotzebue District.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 4:47:15</i>
C (7-0)	142	Change the dates gillnet gear may be used in the South Fork and Middle Fork of the Koyukuk River from November 1 to June 30 to August 20 to June 30.	<i>Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 4:53:37</i>
C/A	143	Reduce the bag and possession limit of northern pike in the Minto	<i>Day 5, January 16,</i>



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(7-0)		Flats Northern Pike Management Plan. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 53.)</i>	2016 – 4:57:34
C/A (4-3)	144	Allow the use of five and one-half inch mesh gillnets across an entire channel in portions of the Koyukuk River for the purpose of targeting northern pike. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 57.)</i>	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 5:05:28
AYK Resident Species Personal Use (1 proposals): 145			
C (7-0)	145	Repeal the regulation that prohibits the taking of northern pike in the Tanana River drainage personal use fishery.	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 5:17:13
AYK Resident Species Commercial (1 proposal): 146			
N/A (7-0)	146	Create a directed commercial fishery for cisco in Norton Sound or Port Clarence Districts. <i>(No action taken based on proposer’s request to withdraw the proposal through AC 14.)</i>	Day 5, January 16, 2016 – 5:20:12

* The audio tracking information correlates with the meeting audio available at the bottom of each meeting page. The entry “Day 4, January 15, 2016 – “ indicates the meeting day. The start time indicates when board discussion on the proposal began according to the meeting audio.

Miscellaneous Business

1. Report from the Committee on Coastal Erosion: Member Morisky provided an update to the board regarding the recent Committee on Coastal Erosion teleconference (RC 11) and shared the draft criteria (RC 54) that when final will be used by the board during deliberations on commercial set gillnet proposals impacted by coastal erosion. The Board will issue a public notice indicating a final review of the criteria will occur at the Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Island / Chignik Finfish meeting. Public comment will be encouraged.
2. Impacts from the Estrada Decision/Review of Delegation: Department of Law Assistant Attorney General Seth Beausang provided an update on the impacts from the Alaska Supreme Court’s opinion on Estrada, et. al, versus the State of Alaska. In the opinion, the court found the Alaska Department of Fish and Game does not have authority to set harvest limits on subsistence and personal use fisheries without going through the administrative procedures act process. Mr. Beausang provided possible options for the board to operate within the Estrada Decision including - 1) the Board adopt bag limits at a public meeting, 2) the Board adopt regulations that provide specific criteria for adopting bag limits to be implemented by the department, or 3) delegate powers to the department so that it can set bag limits (RC35). With no objection, the board chose Option 3.
3. State/Federal Subsistence Memorandum of Understanding: Ms. Jill Klein, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, provided an update on the recent Federal Subsistence Board (FSB) meeting where the FSB spoke in favor of actively renewing the MOU between the USF&WS, the FSB, the Department, and both Boards of Fisheries and Game. A letter will follow from the FSB to the Department and both boards expressing the spirit of this interest. The board agreed to wait until



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the letter was received prior to engaging further. At its December 9, 2015 Board of Fisheries Federal/Subsistence Committee meeting, the committee heard an update on the expired MOU and at that time expressed interest in a renewal of efforts to resign the MOU.