

Grayling Anvik Shageluk Holy Cross Advisory Committee
1/11/2019
Teleconference

- I. Call to Order: 12:06 pm by Chairman Ken Chase
- II. Roll Call:
 - Members Present: Rich Freireich, Shirly Clark, Grayling
 Ken Chase, Cliff Hickson (alt) (Anvik)
 Roger Hamilton Jr, Chevie Roach (Shageluk)
 Eugene Paul, David Walker (Holy Cross)
 Bruce Werba, Undesignated
 - Members Absent (Excused): Nathan Elswick (Anvik)
 - Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
- III. Approval of Agenda: Addition of "Chair Report" unanimously approved
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Waived to next face to face meeting
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Christy Gleason & Deena Jallen (DCF); Tom Seaton (DWC)
 Nissa Pilcher (BDS)
- VI. Guests Present: Alfred Diementif (Holy Cross); Brooke Wright (TCC Yukon Intertribal Fish
 Commission (ITFC)), Jim Simon (TCC YITFC); Orville Huntington (TCC DNR)
- VII. Old Business:

VIII. New Business:

Chair Report: noted elections are up to date and there are new people. Thanked for the interest in the committee and being a part of the AC. Noted we need to establish election protocol so in the future there are no issues with how elections are conducted.

We need to think about ways to increase the committees productivity, public participation, accountability of AC members, ensuring we get back to our communities about what happens, and to ensure we are helping our resources.

We had stopped moving between villages due to poor public participation. Would like to resume going to all of the communities again, so please think on this and we can discuss how to increase public participation at our next meeting in Grayling.

Committee asked Orville questions and expressed concern over high seas intercept fisheries, the levels of fat and the health of those fish being caught (noted the later runs don't look very healthy). Concern expressed over warmer temperatures leading to warmer headwater stream

temperatures being an issue with the runs. Members find it interesting that Dillingham based fisheries are still doing ok but the Yukon and Kuskokwim are not.

Alaska Board of Fisheries: Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Proposals January 15-19, 2019 Anchorage, 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
178	Allow chum salmon to be taken by drift gillnets after August 2 in Yukon River Subdistrict 4-A downstream from the mouth of Stink Creek		
support	9	0	<p>Since the king run isn't something we can depend on anymore, there is more emphasis put on fall chum fishing, and we would like to be able to drift the fall chum run. We have no set net sites.</p> <p>This would be for subsistence only</p> <p>Member did note there was a concern with overfishing on silvers during this run but others believe that this wouldn't be too big of an issue because of where they swim and the way we fish for them.</p> <p>We want to make sure that everyone is getting the food supply they need for the winter.</p> <p>AC noted that the lower districts could do this already.</p>
86	Allow subsistence fishing for non-salmon fish with hook and line gear in District 4 of the Yukon Area		
TNA			<p>Believe that children should be taught all different kind of fishing, including with a rod, to put away fish for the year.</p> <p>Sheefish come in in the spring and the ice isn't always there and it is good to catch and eat fresh fish; didn't know that we might have to have a sport license to do this at this time of year. We would like to see this in our area so would like the board to discuss this on a wider level.</p>
87	Allow subsistence fishing for salmon with drift gillnets in the entire Yukon River		
TNA			<p>There are different needs on the river and we all have different schedules. We can't really see where there is any benefit to the passing of this proposal for our area at all.</p>

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88	Require fish wheels to be closely attended during times of conservation for any species		
Support	6	3	<p>We may want to start using fishwheels again, manning the wheel, we used to do this in the past. The fishwheel is sort of a lost art here. Department noted that manning the wheels would only be in times of conservation. Concern with additional burden being placed on subsistence user.</p> <p>Yukon Intertribal Fish Commission representative (YIFC) noted that the kings do get stressed in the live box and that they are in support of this proposal</p> <p>The Shageluk delegation members both voted no due to that the Innoko River would like to not see any more restrictions place on fish wheels. It is a lost art and the Innoko School is looking into teaching the children how to build and operate a fishwheel.</p>
89	Allow retention of king salmon for subsistence purposes, by emergency order, during times of king salmon conservation in the Yukon Area		
support	9	0	
90	Reduce the amount of time prior to opening of the commercial fishing season in Districts 1-3 and Subdistrict 4-A of the Yukon Area when subsistence fishing for salmon is prohibited		
Oppose	0	9	<p>Think this is sort of the managers call for this sort of thing. This should be at the discretion of the managers.</p> <p>People are used to 24 hours, and this way it is set and this would keep districts from saying that they are being discriminated against if one district got one length of closer and another got another.</p>
91	Reduce the amount of time prior to opening of each commercial fishing period in Districts 1-3 of the Yukon Area when subsistence fishing for salmon is prohibited		
Oppose	0	9	<p>Department noted that they were opposed since they already have this authority.</p> <p>Big reduction in time.</p>
92	Restrict gillnet mesh size to a maximum of 6 inches in Districts 4, 5, and 6 subsistence and commercial salmon fisheries		

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Oppose			<p>Opposed to that. Individuals can choose to be conservative on their own discretion but don't want to be regulated into it.</p> <p>David noted he used 6" gear, concerned with stress of fish and fallout</p>
93	Repeal the requirement to remove the tips of the tail fin of subsistence-taken salmon in Districts 1 – 3 of the Yukon Area		
94	Allow the taking of the first king salmon entering the Yukon River for religious and ceremonial use		
Oppose	0	9	We have a treaty with Canada we need to abide by and need to ensure that the first pulse is protected.
95	In the Yukon River between the marker at Waldron Creek and Hess Creek, require a minimum distance of 300 feet between units of set gillnet gear and limit the amount of net gear that may be deployed in an eddy to 350 feet		
96	Allow subsistence fishing for fall chum salmon in District 5 without time restrictions if commercial fishing for fall chum salmon is open in other Yukon River districts		
TNA			Clarification on why the AC wants this, and members understand the weather factor but didn't want to vote one way or the other.
97	Divide District 2 of the Yukon Area into two subdistricts		
98	Decrease gillnet depth in Districts 4 – 6 of the Yukon Area		
TNA			Just commercial, so no comment at this time. We don't currently do this
99	Allow use of beach seine gear to harvest salmon during open commercial fishing periods in Districts 1 – 3 of the Yukon Area		
100	Adopt maximum size and depth restrictions for fish wheel baskets		
oppose	0	9	Next thing is they would only want us to have one basket or something. The shallower fishing could create issues, hardship to maintain two different wheels for commercial or subsistence.

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101	Open and close the commercial fishery for fall chum and coho salmon in the Yukon Area by emergency order		
TNA			Believe that managing through EO is probably a good device to use with the everchanging fishing. Would like this to be in place if commercial was an option here.
102	Include the Pastolik and Pastoliak Rivers in District 1 of the Yukon Area		
Oppose	0	9	Maybe these rivers should be looked at a little closer for escapement and for genetic information. If subsistence is being done on them then extra care should be taken in opening a commercial fishery in these rivers. Department was asked about information is known on these rivers on
103	Repeal closed waters within 500 yards of the mouth of Pastolik River and Pastoliak River		
Oppose	0	9	See 102
104	Repeal closed waters in the lower three miles of the Pastolik and Pastoliak rivers		
Oppose	0	9	See 102

Alaska Board of Fisheries: Statewide Finfish Proposals			
March 8-11, 2019 Anchorage, 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
161	Require weekly reporting of salmon harvest by all permit or license holders		
Oppose	0	9	This is already a repeat for guided fishermen. Good way to get data to see what is happening. Data is needed to make good decisions and this would be a good way to get it. Enforcement could be an issue.

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			<p>Department noted that it would be difficult to use this for inseason management.</p> <p>In the long run, will it help with management? A lot of people depend on the fish, and a lot of tourists are coming to fish here now- the Kenai of Western Alaska.</p> <p>No additional burden on subsistence fishermen. We have calendars, and a survey in the fall. As far as management, it won't be beneficial.</p>
162	Require biweekly reporting of all sport, personal use, and subsistence king salmon catch		
Oppose	0	9	See 161
163	Prohibit the intentional waste or destruction of subsistence-caught fish		
Oppose	0	9	<p>Really against wanton waste for anything if it isn't fit for human consumption then at least let the dogs eat it. This is not a traditional practice.</p> <p>Haven't seen any wanton waste in our area and if it starts happening then we will police our self instead of making a regulation out of it</p>
164	Prohibit the intentional waste or destruction of sheefish		
Oppose	0	9	See 163

DCF noted that the subsistence salmon surveys and calendars went well again this year. We had good participation of fishermen along the Yukon and we appreciate their help to document harvest.

Tom Seaton, Wood Bison Update

As everyone knows, it was a hard winter that had a bad winter event, and we lost some Bison. There were 11 calves that survived, and all seem to still be alive. No new deaths since May. Hoping it is a rare event, and the moose, caribou, and plains bison all seemed to do poorly as well which seems to lead us to think it is. Also had wolf predation this winter but haven't had

any predation from them in the past. Data led us to believe that this wouldn't happen for a while so the conditions were right.

Rich expressed concern that they hadn't seen any black bears. Tom noted that it was a late spring, and this has been heard all over the interior.

Intensive management of wolves mentioned; a lot of moose in Innoko currently. Tom mentioned he was appreciative of residents going after the wolves that were going after the bison.

Setting a date for the next meeting

Only date to stay away from is the Iditarod. Currently plan to resume meeting in the communities is to meet in Grayling then Shageluk then Holy Cross then Anvik. Grayling members are good with hosting.

No agenda items for next time but it is expected to be game heavy.

Adjournment: 3:30 pm