



ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Bristol Bay Finfish

November 28-December 2, 2018 | Dillingham Middle School

PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

This summary is informational only. The actions indicated below will have legal effects in regulations that provide the sole legal action of the board. All references to meeting materials, including this summary, may be located on the Board of Fisheries meeting website at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.meetinginfo&date=11-28-2018&meeting=dillingham>

Board Members Present

Reed Morisky, Chair
Robert Ruffner, Vice Chair
Orville Huntington
Al Cain

John Jensen
Fritz Johnson
Israel Payton

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

<i>Action</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	Audio Tracking Info**
<u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 1: SUBSISTENCE SALMON, SPORT FISHING (22 proposals)</u>			
<i>Subsistence Salmon (5 proposals)</i>			
C/A (6-1)	18	Repeal limits to subsistence fishing periods in the Nushagak District. <i>(Substituted with language found in RC55 and amended with RC54.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 08:46:13 AM</i>
C/A (5-2)	19	Allow subsistence fishing for salmon with dipnets near Dillingham. <i>(Substituted with language found in RC48)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 09:03:32 AM</i>
F (0-7)	20	Allow use of drift gillnets not more than 10 fathoms in length for subsistence salmon fishing in the Wood and Nushagak Rivers near Dillingham.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 09:18:08 AM</i>
N/A (7-0)	21	Allow subsistence fishing with hook and line attached to rod or pole in Six Mile Lake. <i>(The board took no action based on the department’s recommendation to form a rod and reel committee – see miscellaneous business at the end of this summary.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 09:23:49 AM</i>



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<i>Action</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Audio Tracking Info**</i>
F (3-4)	22	Allow subsistence fishing for salmon in the Egegik District at any time from May 1 through September 30.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 09:44:02 AM</i>
Rainbow Trout (3 proposals)			
F (2-5)	47	Adopt the Southwest Alaska Rainbow Trout Management Plan.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 10:16:38 AM</i>
F (0-7)	48	Modify the sport fishing season in the Naknek River drainage.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 10:21:48 AM</i>
F (0-7)	49	Prohibit retention of rainbow trout by nonresident sport anglers in a portion of the Naknek River drainage.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 10:25:05 AM</i>
Sport Fishing Guides (6 proposals)			
F (0-7)	50	Prohibit guiding on the Naknek River drainage during spring from the marker at Lake Camp downstream to the marker at Rapids Camp.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 10:34:56 AM</i>
N/A (7-0)	51	Establish a limited guide permit system between September 10 and October 20 in a portion of the Naknek River. <i>(The board took no action based on a request by the proposer to withdraw the proposal in RC56.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 10:46:28 AM</i>
F (0-7)	52	Limit the number of clients a sport fishing guide or sport fishing guide business may have while targeting trout in a portion of the Naknek River drainage.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 10:48:25 AM</i>
F (0-7)	53	Establish guide permits in a section of the Naknek River drainage.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:11:09 AM</i>
F (0-7)	54	Limit the hours guides or clients can fish on a section of the Naknek River.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:13:44 AM</i>
F (0-7)	55	Limit the days guides or clients can fish on a section of the Naknek River.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:18:03 AM</i>
Methods and Means (2 proposals)			
F (0-7)	56	Prohibit chumming by guides and other commercial users in portions of the Naknek River drainage sport fishery.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:22:58 AM</i>
F (0-7)	57	Prohibit the use of certain sport fishing tackle in a section of the Naknek River drainage.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:27:49 AM</i>
Sport Salmon (4 proposals)			
C/A (7-0)	58	Close sport fishing for king salmon in a portion of the Naknek River drainage. <i>(Proposal 58 was initially tabled and later substituted with language in RC71.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:32:59 AM Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 01:44:42 PM</i>



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N/A (7-0)	59	Close waters to king salmon sport fishing in a section of the Naknek River drainage. <i>(Took no action due to action taken in Proposal 58.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:36:07 AM</i>
F (0-7)	60	Create a rod limit for nonresident anglers sport fishing for salmon on a portion of the Naknek River.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:37:45 AM</i>
F (2-5)	61	Prohibit blocking access to sport fishing locations in the Naknek River.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 11:40:53 AM</i>
Miscellaneous Sport (2 proposal)			
F (0-7)	62	All sport-caught fish removed from the water in all freshwater drainages of the Bristol Bay Area must be retained.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 01:50:36 PM</i>
C/A (7-0)	175	Align regulations for sport fishing services and sport fishing guide services in fresh and salt waters and update guide registration and reporting regulations. <i>(Substituted with language in RC50.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 01:56:18 PM</i>
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 2: COMMERCIAL SALMON, COMMERCIAL HERRING (25 proposals)			
<i>Gear Specifications and Operations, and Description of Area/Fishing districts (8 proposals)</i>			
F (1-5)	23	Clarify that the holder of two drift gillnet limited entry permits may operate up to 150 fathoms of drift gillnet gear. <i>(Member Jensen recused.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 02:42:09 PM</i>
F (0-5)	24	Allow the holder of either two set gillnet or two drift gillnet limited entry permits to operate more gear than the holder of a single limited entry permit. <i>(Members Jensen and Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 03:14:12 PM</i>
F (0-5)	25	Allow an individual holding two drift gillnet limited entry permits to operate up to 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear. <i>(Members Jensen and Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 03:23:03 PM</i>
N/A (5-0)	26	Allow the owner of two drift gillnet limited entry permits to operate 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear from a single vessel. <i>(Took no action due to action under Proposal 25. Members Jensen and Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 03:25:30 PM</i>
F (0-7)	27	Allow the holder of two set gillnet limited entry permits in the Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, and Ugashik districts to operate 100 fathoms of set gillnet gear.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 03:26:13 PM</i>
F (2-5)	28	Allow commercial fishing for salmon, with set net gear only, within the section of the Kvichak River that borders Levelock Village land.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 03:31:51 PM</i>



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C (7-0)	29	Establish mesh size restrictions for the conservation of king salmon in the Naknek-Kvichak and Ugashik Districts.	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 03:37:56 PM</i>
C/A (7-0)	174	Clarify fishing areas, districts, sections, and gear specifications and operations for Sockeye Special Harvest Areas in Bristol Bay. <i>(Substituted with language in RC70)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-01-18 BOF: 03:43:48 PM</i>
F (1-6)	30	Increase the maximum length for drift gillnet vessels from 32 feet in overall length to 42 feet in overall length.	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 09:13:25 AM</i>
F (0-7)	31	Delay implementation of the 48-hour district transfer notification period until the third Saturday in June.	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 09:35:23 AM</i>
C/A (4-3)	32	Extend duration of late-season fishing periods in the Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, and Ugashik Districts. <i>(Substituted with language in RC73)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 09:39:58 AM</i>
N/A (7-0)	33	Allow the use of beach weirs in commercial salmon fishing in Bristol Bay. <i>(Took no action due to lack of authority)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 10:08:10 AM</i>
C/A (7-0)	34	Reduce closed waters in the Naknek-Kvichak District. <i>(Substituted with language found in RC76 referencing map in RC51.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 10:11:08 AM</i>
N/A (7-0)	35	Reduce closed waters in the Naknek-Kvichak District near Graveyard Creek. <i>(Took no action based on the proposer's request to withdraw proposal in RC31.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 10:20:07 AM</i>
<i>Alagnak River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area Management Plan and Naknek-Kvichak District Commercial Set and Drift Gillnet Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Management and Allocation Plan (2 proposals)</i>			
C/A (7-0)	36	Repeal conditions that must be met prior to allowing commercial fishing for salmon in the <i>Alagnak River Special Harvest Area</i> . <i>(Substituted with language found in RC59.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 10:50:13 AM</i>
F (0-5)	37	Manage the Naknek and Kvichak sections independent of each other based on the harvestable surplus within each section and establish section-specific harvest allocation criteria so that 84% of each section's harvest is allocated to the drift gillnet fleet and 16% of the section's harvest is allocated to the set gillnet fleet. <i>(Members Jensen and Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 10:57:22 AM</i>



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F (0-5)	38	Repeal provisions to open the <i>Wood River Special Harvest Area</i> when the escapement of sockeye salmon into the Wood River exceeds 1,100,000 fish and the escapement is projected to exceed 1,400,000 fish. (<i>Members Jensen and Johnson recused.</i>)	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 11:00:56 AM</i>
F (1-5)	39	Open the <i>Wood River Special Harvest Area</i> to both set and drift gillnet gear after July 17. (<i>Member Jensen recused.</i>)	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 11:03:10 AM</i>
C/A (7-0)	40	Establish a drawing system for use of the four furthest downriver set gillnet sites in the <i>Wood River Special Harvest Area</i> . (<i>Originally voted down (0-7), but later reconsidered. The final action amended the proposal to strike the original concept of a drawing system instead to increase separation between set gillnets from 150ft to 250ft.</i>)	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 11:06:44 AM</i> <i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 1:42:34 PM</i>
C/A (5-0)	41	Reduce fishing time in the Nushagak District commercial salmon fishery when the Nushagak River sport fishery is restricted for king salmon conservation. (<i>Substituted with language found in RC51. Members Jensen and Johnson recused.</i>)	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 11:20:54 AM</i>
N/A (5-0)	42	Reduce fishing time in the Nushagak District commercial salmon fishery when the Nushagak River sport fishery is restricted for king salmon conservation. (<i>Took no action due to action taken in Proposal 41. Members Jensen and Johnson recused.</i>)	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 11:33:29 AM</i>
F (0-5)	43	Establish subdistricts in the Nushagak District. (<i>Members Jensen and Johnson recused.</i>)	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 11:34:14 AM</i>
<i>Bristol Bay Herring Management Plan (3 proposals)</i>			
F (0-7)	44	Allow any remaining unharvested Togiak District herring spawn-on-kelp allocation to be reallocated to the Togiak District sac roe herring fishery.	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 2:02:08 PM</i>
F (0-7)	45	Allow unharvested Togiak District sac roe gillnet allocation to be reallocated to the Dutch Harbor food and bait herring fishery.	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 2:06:30 PM</i>
C/A (5-2)	46	Increase the amount of harvestable surplus Togiak herring allocated to the purse seine fleet from 70 percent to 88 percent. (<i>Substituted with language in RC 82</i>)	<i>Meeting 12-02-18 BOF: 2:15:33 PM</i>

* The audio tracking information correlates with the meeting audio available at the bottom of each meeting page. The entry “Day 2, October 19, 2016” indicates the meeting day. The start time indicates when board discussion on the proposal began according to the meeting audio.



Miscellaneous Business:

1. Proposed committee on Nushagak-Mulchatna King Salmon Management

Plan. The board discussed the merits of forming a committee to review the *Nushagak-Mulchatna King Salmon Management Plan* under 5 AAC 06.361 and unanimously agreed to do so under the charge statement found in RC86 and further defined in RC84. The committee, as established by 2018-291-FB and consisting of Members Morisky, Payton, and Ruffner, will initiate the committee work and provide a progress report to the board at the 2019 work session.

*Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
2:56:06 PM*

2. Proposed committee on rod and reel gear. The board took no action on Proposal 21 by the Nondalton Tribal Council which sought to allow the use of rod and reel gear on and near Six Mile Lake. During the board's deliberations the Division of Sport Fish spoke to the inconsistencies in statute regarding the definition of sport, personal use, and subsistence fishing. Sport fishing is strongly linked to take for personal use with a rod and reel while other uses offer more gear types. As the use of rod and reel increases for subsistence fishing, the division is concerned that subsistence fishing with a rod and reel will become the predominate use of rod and reel, thereby eliminating sport fishing license revenues used by the department to leverage federal dollars to fund conservation, research, and management in Alaska. Given the complexity of the issue for the division, the department recommended the board review the subject and determine if a finding or policy is in order to guide future board actions related to rod and reel subsistence gear. Members Payton and Huntington were asked to serve on this temporary committee established through 2018-292-FB on a vote of 5-2 (Members Ruffner and Payton in opposition).

*Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
2:58:08 PM*

3. BOF Draft letter to Governor/Legislature regarding sport fishing commercial services industry and working group to review potential solutions to sport fish commercial services use in the Naknek River.

During the meeting there were several proposals seeking increased restrictions on sport guide activities on portions of the Naknek River. While the board did not approve any of the proposals it recognized the growing concern by participants in the fishery and spoke to the concept of establishing a working committee to review the issue in greater detail. This temporary committee was approved unanimously through 2018-293-FB, a charge statement for the review of the Naknek River sport commercial services and guide fisheries. Members Morisky and Johnson will serve on this committee.

*Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
3:03:32 PM*

The board also discussed at length the merits of writing a letter to the Governor and Legislature about the need to establish restrictions on sport fish commercial services throughout the state. Chair Morisky will draft a letter for board review at the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim (AYK) Finfish meeting.



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4. **Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game nomination process for Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game.** Executive Director Haight provided the board with an update on the Joint Boards process for conducting the ADF&G commissioner nomination process. *Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
3:29:36 PM*

5. **Request by Vice Chair Ruffner to attend the North Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting in December 2018.** Vice-chair Ruffner asked for and received the board's consent for him to travel to Anchorage to attend a portion of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, in part to observe the Council's Cook Inlet Salmon Fisheries Management Plan committee. Member Ruffner will report back to the board at the next regular meeting. *Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
3:32:46 PM*

6. **Member Huntington report on Yukon River Panel.** Member Huntington provided the board with a brief update on the Yukon River Panel and the upcoming meeting. *Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
3:34:38 PM*

7. **Discussion on reducing the 2021/2022 Call for Proposal to not include Bristol Bay permit restructuring and drift vessel length proposals.** During the meeting the board deliberated on separate proposals dealing with permit stacking and drift gillnet vessel length. The board was approached by participants through RC74 to consider establishing a moratorium on permit stacking and vessel length proposals for the next Bristol Bay finfish meeting. The board briefly discussed the request and its authorities. *Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
3:35:35 PM*

8. **Discussion on Nushagak coho salmon plan and a Board Generated Proposal.** Through RC81, the board reviewed a request to generate a proposal regarding the *Nushagak River Coho Salmon Management Plan* under 5 AAC 06.368. In the plan, the department must project coho salmon will exceed the escapement goal range before fishing may be allowed as opposed to a "trigger" number within the range. The board approved generating a proposal that establishes a trigger within the escapement goal range. The proposal will also consider moving the date of August 1 when the department projects the coho salmon run to later in the year as run timing has been later in recent years. *Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
3:41:31 PM*

9. **BOF Draft letter to DNR, CFEC, and ADF&G on review of commercial set net family operations.** The board received a request in RC25 to initiate a letter to the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and the departments of Natural Resources, Fish and Game, Law, and Public Safety, asking the agencies to review existing regulations and determine if permit stacking may be allowed in set net operations so long as it is tied to maintaining a family operation. Member Ruffner will draft a letter for board review at the AYK Finfish meeting. *Meeting 12-02-18 BOF:
3:49:03 PM*

The meeting adjourned a day early on December 2, 2018.