

KODIAK AC

Oct 21 2019

PRESENT:

Paul Chervenak(Big Game, President)
Julie Kavanaugh, (Concerned Citizen, Vice Chair)
Oliver Holme (Small Boat Crab/Herring/Salmon
Roland Ruoss (Transporter, Sport Fish Charter
Ron Kavanaugh (Small Boat)
Nate Rose (Alternate)

Jason Bunch(Alternate, Secretary)
Theresa Peterson, (South End Setnet)
Kip Thomet (Westside Salmon Gillnet)
Kevin Adkins (Port Lions)
Conrad Peterson (Old Harbor)

ABSENT:

Melissa Berns (Concerned Citizen)
Randal Swain (Kodiak Processor)
Patrick O'Donnell (Trawl Set)
Rick Berns (Alternate Old Harbor)
Vacant (Alternate Ouzinkie)

Tyler Schmeil (Large Boat)
Andrew Finke (Subsistance)
Danny Clarion (Ouzinkie)
George Weaver (Alternate Port Lions)

A QUORUM OF 8 WAS ESTABLISHED

The Kodiak AC moved to provide written comment on ACR 6&7 listed in the Board of Fish's Oct 23-4, 2019 Work Session Agenda. These comments will be approved by the Kodiak AC President, Paul Chervenak and submitted as an RC at the meeting referenced. A full accounting of the October minutes will be presented at the next scheduled Kodiak AC meeting.

ACR 6 "Close Aleutians Islands waters west of 174 long to commercial fishing by certain vessels using non pelagic trawl gear (5 AAC 28.650)"

11-0 in SUPPORT Kodiak AC agreed that the ACR does meet the criteria for a conservation concern. A new pattern of fishing has emerged due to shifting stocks and these vessels are fishing within areas that impact golden king crab critical habitat and survey gear. It was also noted that the problem occurred after the April 10,2019 submission deadline, and prior to this the situation hadn't existed. Thus making a timely proposal impossible. It was felt that ACR 6 should be added to the March 7-11, 2020 Statewide King/Tanner/Supplemental agenda. Affected stakeholders/public would not be expected to attend any additional meetings.

ACR 7 "Designate the Aleutians Islands Subdistrict an exclusive registration area for Pacific cod (5AAC 28.606, 5 AAC 28.647)

11-0 in SUPPORT Kodiak AC agreed that ACR 7 met the criteria for an unforeseen circumstance. When the Board of Fish increased the GHL in Area in the Dutch Harbor, Area O state waters P-cod fishery, it did not discuss how a larger fleet size might impact the AI state waters P-cod fishery; nor did it anticipate the vacation of Amendment 113; or the effects of BSAI cod rationalization conversation. The first season (2019) after the GHL increase in Area O a significantly larger number of Area O vessels subsequently entered the AIS cod fishery. In addition to this, the courts vacated the NPFMC Amendment 113 which provided 5000mt to be delivered shore side in the AIS. These two changes have destabilizing effects on the regional communities, processors, and harvesters. The NPFMC has also ramped up it's discussion on BSAI trawl rationalization which has created an underlying race for catch history in other sectors.

This situation is compounded by multiple other restrictions and dynamics specific to the AIS state waters P-cod fishery. These issues would be best deliberated upon the ACR being approved. Kodiak AC recommends that ACR 7 be added to the Dec 10-13,2019 Lower Cook Inlet meeting in Seward, so that this issue may be heard before the start of the AIS fishery on January 1,2020.

Paul Chervenak

President, Kodiak AC