

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS
OF THE ALASKA JOINT BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME**

The Alaska Board of Fisheries and the Alaska Board of Game (Joint Boards) propose to adopt regulation changes in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with local fish and game advisory committees, including the following:

DISTRIBUTION AND COMPOSITION of local fish and game advisory committees, including restructuring, combining, or removing existing advisory committees.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERS, including limits on committee membership for a person with a conviction for violating fishing and hunting laws or a felony conviction, a person whose residence is outside of the committee's area of jurisdiction, and a person who is a member of another committee.

FUNCTIONS AND UNIFORM RULES OF OPERATION of local fish and game advisory committees, including designating seats for specific usergroups, standards for active status, and committee participation at board meetings.

ADMINISTRATION of local fish and game advisory committees.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CLOSURES, including areas of jurisdiction for advisory committees.

ADOPTION OF FISH AND GAME REGULATIONS, including standards for submitting written comment for board meetings.

Notice is also given that the Joint Boards will conduct a preliminary review of proposed changes to nonsubsistence areas. During this preliminary review, the Joint Boards will conduct an initial assessment of the proposals, will identify additional information needed for a full review of appropriate proposals, and will schedule appropriate proposals for further public review and department analysis. Final regulatory action will take place at a future meeting.

For a copy of the proposed regulation changes, contact the Boards Support Section at the above address, or visit the website at: <http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us>

You may comment on the proposed regulations, including the potential costs to private persons for complying with the proposed changes. Written comments will be accepted on any subject in this notice and may be submitted to the Joint Boards any time before the proposal is voted on by the Joint Boards in deliberations at the meeting scheduled below, but as a practical matter, comments submitted after the Joint Boards begins deliberations on relevant proposals are likely to receive less consideration than comments submitted earlier. Written comments should be submitted by **5 P.M. ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2007**, to: Joint Boards, Boards Support Section, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526, or by fax to (907) 465-6094, to ensure inclusion in the board workbooks. Written comments are accepted by mail or fax; written comments become public records and are subject to public inspection. The Joint Boards will take oral public testimony at this meeting.

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

Coast International Inn
3450 Aviation Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska
October 5-8, 2007

Any changes to meeting locations, dates or times, or rescheduling of topics or subject matter will be announced by news release. Please watch for these announcements in the news media on the Boards Support Section website at <http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us> or call (907) 465-4110.

If you are a person with a disability needing special accommodations in order to participate in this process, please contact Jim Marcotte at (907) 465-4110 no later than September 21, 2007 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Anyone interested in or affected by advisory committee composition, membership qualifications, rules of operation, or Joint Board nonsubsistence areas is hereby informed that, by publishing this legal notice the Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game may consider any or all of the subject areas covered by this notice. **THE JOINT BOARDS ARE NOT LIMITED BY THE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE OR CONFINES OF ACTUAL PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC OR DEPARTMENT STAFF.** Pursuant to AS 44.62.200, the Joint Boards may review the full range of activities appropriate to any of the subjects listed in this notice.

After reviewing written public comment, the Joint Boards may adopt these or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or amend, reject, supplement, defer, or decide to take no action on the proposed regulations. The language of the final regulations may be different from the proposed regulations. **YOU SHOULD SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENT DURING THE TIME ALLOWED IF YOUR INTERESTS COULD BE AFFECTED.**

Statutory Authority: AS 16.05.251; AS 16.05.255; AS 16.06.258; 16.05.260; AS 16.05.315

Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific: AS 16.05.258; AS 16.05.260

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

Date: August 31, 2007

/s/
Jim Marcotte, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries
(907) 465-4110


ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS NOTICE INFORMATION
(AS 44.62.190(d))

1. Adopting Agency: Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of Game.
2. General subject of regulations: DISTRIBUTION AND COMPOSITION, QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERS, FUNCTIONS AND UNIFORM RULES OF OPERATION OF LOCAL FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEES; and NONSUBSISTENCE AREAS.
3. Citation of regulations: 5 AAC 96, 97, 99.
4. Reason for proposed actions: Implement, interpret, or make specific the provisions of AS 16.05.258, and 16.05.260
5. Program category and RDU affected: Natural Resources and all RDUs.
6. Cost of implementation to the state agency and available funding: It is not possible to estimate the costs. However, these actions are not expected to require any additional costs.
7. The name of the contact person for the regulations:

Jim Marcotte, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
(907) 465-4110
Email: jim.marcotte@alaska.gov

8. The origin of the proposed action:
 staff or state agency
 general public
 regularly scheduled topics for Board of Fisheries and Board of Game

9. Date: August 31, 2007

Prepared by: 
Jim Marcotte, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries
(907) 465-4110

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Joint Board of Fisheries and Game calls for proposed changes to

I. ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULATIONS, and

II. NONSUBSISTENCE AREA REGULATIONS.

PROPOSAL DEADLINE – 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 8, 2006

I. ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULATIONS

The Joint Board of Fisheries and Game is accepting proposed changes to its regulations pertaining to local fish and game advisory committees to be considered at its next regulatory meeting, to be scheduled in October 2007. The following sections of Title 5 Chapter 96 of the Alaska Administrative Code will be considered:

- 5 AAC 96.010. Establishment of a local fish and game advisory committee system
- 5 AAC 96.020. Creation of local fish and game advisory committees
- 5 AAC 96.021. Establishment of fish and game advisory committees
- 5 AAC 96.040. Qualifications for members
- 5 AAC 96.050. Functions of local fish and game advisory committees
- 5 AAC 96.060. Uniform rules of operation
- 5 AAC 96.410. Distribution of local fish and game advisory committees
- 5 AAC 96.420. Review of requests for local fish and game advisory committees
- 5 AAC 96.440. Board assistance
- 5 AAC 96.450. Committee status and change of status
- 5 AAC 96.460. Attendance at meetings

The Joint Board is particularly interested in receiving proposals to enhance the effectiveness of the advisory committee system. For example, the Joint Board would like to consider options to consolidate committees A) where multiple committees represent the same geographic area or share in the use of the same fish stocks and game populations; B) where committees have been inactive for two or more years; or C) where a change in committee structure would better facilitate resolving resource issues at the local level before coming to the boards.

II. NONSUBSISTENCE AREA REGULATIONS

The Joint Board of Fisheries and Game is accepting proposed changes to its regulations pertaining to the Joint Board nonsubsistence areas. A nonsubsistence area is an area or community where dependence upon subsistence is not a principal characteristic of the economy, culture and way of life of the area or community. The boards may not permit subsistence hunting or fishing in a nonsubsistence area. The following section of Title 5 Chapter 99 of the Alaska Administrative Code will be considered:

- 5 AAC 99.015. Joint Board nonsubsistence areas.
(Includes Ketchikan, Juneau, Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai, Fairbanks, and Valdez nonsubsistence areas)

The Joint Board established the current nonsubsistence areas as required under AS 16.05.258(c) in 1992. Proposals submitted to modify the existing areas, delete areas, or add new areas should identify any significant new information available that the Joint Board did not have available in 1992 when it made the determinations or identify if the board made any errors in its previous decision. Written findings detailing the boards action can be found on the boards website (<http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/fishgame/regs/jbfind.php>) or by contacting one of

the Board Support offices listed below. Proposals should also reference the 12 socio-economic characteristics specified in AS 16.05.258(c), which are also available by contacting the Boards Support Section.

The Joint Board intends to follow a two-step approach to acting on the nonsubsistence area proposals. The board will perform a preliminary review of the proposals during a meeting scheduled in October 2007. During this preliminary review, the board will conduct an initial assessment of the proposals, will identify the information needed for a full review of appropriate proposals, and will schedule appropriate proposals for further public review and department analysis prior to regulatory action at a meeting to be scheduled in 2008.

Proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. Friday, December 8, 2006 at one of the following locations:

Scott Crass
ADF&G, Boards Support
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Phone: (907) 465-4110
Fax: (907) 465-6094

Joe Chythlook
ADF&G, Boards Support
PO Box 1030
Dillingham, AK 99576-1030
Phone: (907) 842-5142
Fax: (907) 842-5514

Sherry Wright
ADF&G, Boards Support
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518-1599
Phone: (907) 267-2354
Fax: (907) 267-2489

Charlie Gregg
ADF&G, Boards Support
PO Box 689
Kotzebue, AK 99752-0689
Phone: (907) 442-1717
Fax: (907) 442-2847

Rita St. Louis
ADF&G, Boards Support
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: (907) 459-7263
Fax: (907) 474-8558

Proposal forms may be obtained from any office of the Boards Support Section or on the board's website at <http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/>. All proposals must contain an original signature, contact telephone number, and address. Please print or type the individual's name and an organizational name if appropriate. A fax is acceptable and considered an original. **Proposals must be received in one of the above offices by the deadline** (a postmark is NOT sufficient for timely receipt). You are encouraged to submit proposals at the earliest possible date.

Proposals are reviewed by the board's proposal review committee prior to publication. Language that is emotionally charged detracts from the substance of the proposal. It may draw opposition that may not be germane to the element(s) of the proposal and may elicit nonresponsive charges from the public/board members. The proposal review committee reserves the right to edit or reject proposals containing offensive language. Following publication, proposal booklets will be available to advisory committees and interested members of the public for review and comment.