

**On-Time Advisory Committee Comment List**  
**Work Session**  
**October 15–16, 2014**

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Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 9/24/14)..... AC 01

Kenai/Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Letter to Board)..... AC 02

Kenai/Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 9/24/14) ..... AC 03

Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Letter to Board) ..... AC 04

UNALASKA/DUTCH HARBOR FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

P.O. BOX 162 UNALASKA, AK 99685

September 24, 2014



Karl Johnstone, Chairman  
Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Fish and Game Board Support  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

**Subject:** Comments from the Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC from their meeting held on September 20, 2014 in Unalaska, Alaska. Comments were on various ACR proposals included for the Alaska Board of Fisheries Work Session meeting to be held in Juneau, AK October 15-16- 2014.

**ACR 1 -** Reduce the size of exploitable legal male Tanner crab, from 5.5 inches to 5 inches carapace width, for purposes of calculating total allowable catch in waters east of 166° West longitude in the Bering Sea District (5AAC 35.508 (g) (5) Motion to support, ACR 1 by Gregory, seconded by Shockley.

Discussion: ADFG staff no comment, ADFG staff comments not completed. Committee member's discussion this proposal, had support by all committee members; it fits the processors preferred size limit for Tanner crab east of 166° W longitude. If the size change limit is not approved, this issue will continue to have negative economic impacts on harvesters, processors and communities in the Bering Sea region. **Motion to support passed 9-0**

**ACR 2 –** Change the *C. bairdi* Tanner crab regulatory fishing season closure date from March 31 to May 15 in waters west of 166°W. longitude of the Bering Sea District (5AAC35.510(f)(1) **No Action taken on this ACR.**

**ACR 3-** Increase the allowable level of incidental harvest of *C bairdi* Tanner crab allowed while directed fishing for Bristol Bay red king east of 166° W longitude from the current level of 5% up to the amount of *C. bairdi* individual fishing quota held by the vessels operator (5AAC 35.506 (i) (2). Motion to support ACR 3, by Holman, seconded, by Gregory.

Discussion: ADFG staff no comment, ADFG staff comments not completed. The main discussion focused on gear issues with the department no knowing what

[1]



UNALASKA/DUTCH HARBOR FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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the target species was being fished. A change could lead to more misuse of the resource as dead loss, with small amounts of Tanner crab that are mixed in a tanks of red king crab don't survive well increasing dead loss. It is also difficult for the processing plants to handle small amounts of *C bairdi* Tanner crab when the plant is processing mainly red king crab; unloading issues of two species at the same time, as well different cook time's possibly different packaging. **The motion to support failed 9-0.**

**ACR 24-** Increase the South Alaska Peninsula state-water Pacific Cod fishery guideline harvest level from 30% to 50% of the estimated allowable harvest of Pacific cod for the federal Western Gulf of Alaska (5 ACC 28.577 h() 91). (b) Fishing seasons for Registration Area O Motion to support ACR 24, by Dickerson, seconded, by Shockley.

Discussion: ADFG staff no comment, ADFG staff comments not completed. The committee felt that an increase of up to 50% would severely impact the larger 60+ foot over vessels that fish in the federal water fishery in Area 610 WGOA. Many of those vessels are also home ported in communities in the Western Gulf. **Motion to support passed 8-0-1 abstention.**

**ACR-25** Increase the Dutch Harbor Sub-district state-water Pacific cod fishery guideline harvest level from 3% to 6% of the estimated total allowable harvest of Pacific cod for the federal Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (5 AAC28.648 (e) (1) Motion to support ACR 25 by Shockley seconded by Holman.

Discussion: ADFG staff no comment, ADFG staff comments not completed. Committee discussion focused on how well the fishery worked for the 16 60+ foot and under vessels that worked the area, the top quality product that was delivered to the local plants in Unalaska, and increase in the percentage would hopefully lead to a longer season and increased revenues for the local 60+ and under vessels. Concerns on this issue voiced by committee members that doubling the percentage may not be warranted after only 1 year of the fisheries existence. An increase of this size will increase the number of vessels working the fishery that may impact local harvesters in such a small area. This increase will also impact the other gear sectors that work the Bering Sea cod fishery in the 60+ foot and over sector that have been fishing the Bering Sea for many years will see a decrease in there allocations. **The motion to support ACR 25 passed 6-3**

[2]



UNALASKA/DUTCH HARBOR FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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**ACR-26** – Redefine the method used to determine overall length of salmon purse seine vessels (5AAC 39.117) Vessel length; bulbous bow. **No Action taken by the committee on ACR 26**

 Date 9-24-14

Frank Kelty, Unalaska / Dutch Harbor AC Chairman



# STATE OF ALASKA

## Kenai/Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Sean Parnell, Governor

Kenai/Soldotna Advisory  
Mike Crawford, Chair  
P.O. Box 2067  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
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September 30, 2014

Alaska Board of Fisheries  
ADF&G/ Board Support  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Dear Board Members,

The Kenai Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee (KSF&GAC) is an established Advisory committee (AC) under AS 16.05.260. The committees are governed under the rules proscribed in; 5 AAC 96, 5 AAC 97, and 5 AAC 99. Original advisory committees were formed in 1959 to provide a local forum to discuss and make recommendations on fish and wildlife issues before the Boards of Fish and Game. At present there are 71 Advisory Committees (AC's), 18 within the southcentral region.

The KSF&GAC is comprised of 15 board members and 4 alternates. To better insure a wide degree of public representation, our AC functions with designated interests (seats): 3 limited entry salmon permit commercial fishers, 3 commercial fresh water sports guides, 1 personal use user, 1 subsistence user, 1 trapping person, 1 hunting person, 5 at - large representatives and 4 alternates (1 commercial fisher, 1 guided sport and 2 general). We believe that we fulfill the statute requirement of being, "well informed on the fish and game resources of the locality."

It has come to the attention of the Kenai/Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee that the venue for the 2017 Alaska Board of Fish meeting is up for consideration, and that the Kenai Peninsula is one of the possible hosts. As an AC, we understand and appreciate the uniqueness of both the Board of Game and Board of Fish processes in Alaska. We also recognize the importance to the communities that host these meetings as they are often the most impacted by the decisions made therein, as well as the benefits to the community itself for hosting such meetings.

In the spring of 2013, the city of Kenai hosted the Alaska Board of Game meeting, as it addressed many of the regulatory proposals and issues that directly affected this area. The meeting was a great success with regard to both the quantity and quality of public input from local residents. The qualitative aspect of the testimony of local residents provided a combination of historical, local and traditional knowledge; and various commercial, sport, and personal use aspects. The Board of Game commented that it appreciated this perspective particularly since it had not convened a regulatory meeting on the Kenai since 1992. They truly appreciated the amount of local knowledge that was brought forth. In the end, the greatest reason for the amount and quality of input provided was an accessible and open process for the local public.



It has been approximately 15+ years since the Board of Fish has convened one of its meetings on the Kenai Peninsula. Since the vast majority of the people impacted by the decisions that will be made at the 2017 Board of Fish meeting reside and/or work or play on the Kenai Peninsula, we find it only fair and appropriate to host the Board of Fish meetings within. When you think of fishing, with regard to the waterways of Upper Cook Inlet, whether it be subsistence, commercial, sport, or personal use, you think of the Kenai Peninsula. When you think of a location or venue to host the meetings to determine regulations for an area, you think of access for the people most impacted.

The March 2013 Board of Game meeting was a great success because the people that attended were most affected by current regulations, they were able to attend and testify at the meeting. When it comes to the Board of Fish process, which often exceeds two weeks in length, the proposition of attending, testifying, and being involved often becomes cost and time prohibitive to the local Peninsula resident. Particularly when the meetings are hosted in a distant city. The main reason for having a public meeting is so that the public can have a chance to participate in a meaningful manner. When considering the demographics of Alaska, location of the meeting is a primary consideration with regard to those most affected.

Therefore, we humbly request that you host the 2017 Board of Fish meeting on the Kenai Peninsula. This request can be easily accommodated by our local community and we feel that it will allow for greater qualitative and quantitative input from the people most impacted by the decisions made.

It should be noted that the Kenai-Soldotna AC members will do whatever is possible to ensure that the community is aware of the considerations of respect and tolerance necessary to conduct a highly emotionally charged meeting. The Kenai/Soldotna Advisory Committee has unanimously voted on and supports this request.

If there should be further questions please do not hesitate to contact our chair or other representatives of the Peninsula on the logistics of convening a UCI regulatory meeting in our community.

Respectfully,

Kenai/Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Mike Crawford, Chairman (sport fish guide)  
Bob Ermold, vice chair (at large)  
Christine Brandt, secretary (commercial fish)  
Andrew Carmichael, (subsistence)  
Dick Dykema, (trapping)  
Pegge Erkeneff, (at large)  
Michael Hamrick, (at large)  
John Joseph, (sport fish guide)  
Monte Roberts, (sport fish guide)  
Paul A. Shadura II, (commercial fish)  
Jerry Strieby, (sport fish guide alt.)  
Dyer Van Devere, (commercial fish drift)  
Michelle Williams, (hunting)



## Kenai/Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory

9/24/2014 Minutes

Time: 6:30PM

Roll Call: Chair Crawford, Brandt, Carmichael, Hamrick, Erkeneff, Dykema, Shadura II, Roberts and Ermold.

Chair Crawford addressed the empty seats on the AC. Discussion on filling the seats this fall and clarification on the procedure that will take place.

No one has received proposal books to date.

Shadura II made a motion for a letter or resolution to be written to the Board of Fish (BOF) regarding having the meeting on the Kenai Peninsula. Carmichael seconded.

Discussion on whether to write a letter or a resolution. Shadura II named groups and cities that are writing resolutions supporting the UCI meeting to be held on the Kenai/Soldotna area.

Co Chair Ermold consented to writing a letter on behalf of the AC.

Shadura II called the question. Chair Crawford asked for unanimous consent, seeing no objection motion passed.

Ermold brought ACR 13 to the table, Roberts seconded. Brandt spoke to her ACR. Shadura II spoke to the criteria of an ACR. ACR 13 motion passed 8/0/0 – Conservation issues and affect to the personal use and inriver fisheries.

Roberts brought ACR 14 to the table, Shadura II seconded. ACR 14 failed 0/9/0 – Gear size was discussed at last BOF meeting at length.

Roberts brought ACR 15 to the table, Shadura II seconded. ACR 15 passed 8/1/0 – Support – Allows for proper management for the separate rivers/runs. Oppose – BOF gave the Department the tools to address this.



ACR 16 – No action based on action taken on ACR 15.

Shadura II brought ACR 17 to the table, Roberts seconded. Joseph Person addressed his ACR. ACR 17 passed 9/0/0 – To correct an error in regulation.

Roberts brought ACR 18 to the table, Shadura II seconded. ACR 18 failed 0/9/0 – Addressed at the 2014 UCI BOF meeting.

Shadura II brought ACR 19 to the table, Roberts seconded. ACR 19 failed 4/5/0 – Support – Gives diversity and opportunity during economic hardship. Oppose – This is not an emergency, needs to be taken up at a regular cycle.

Shadura II brought ACR 20 to the table, Roberts seconded. ACR 20 failed 2/6/0 – Support – Underutilized resources. Oppose – Not an emergency.

Shadura II brought ACR 21 to the table, Roberts seconded. ACR 21 failed 0/7/1 – Oppose – This should be taken up at a regular cycle. Abstain – It has merit.

Roberts moved to adjourn, Brandt seconded. Unanimous support.

Meeting adjourned.





Submitted By  
Mat Valley Fish and Game AC  
Submitted On  
10/1/2014 8:23:12 PM  
Affiliation  
Mat Valley Fish and Game AC

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The Mat Valley Fish and Game AC supports keeping the 2017 Upper Cook Inlet Board of Fisheries meeting in Anchorage which is a central location that is accessible by various stakeholders who wish to participate. The AC voted unanimously to this effect 11-0-0. The Mat Valley Fish and Game AC does not think ACR 20 or ACR 21 meet the requirement to be taken up out of cycle. The Mat Valley AC asks that the Board of Fisheries Members do not take up these ACR's. The AC voted unanimously to this effect 11-0-0. Sincerely, Jehnifer Ehmann Chair Mat Valley Fish and Game AC.

