
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Work Session

Anchorage | October 28-29, 2026

On-Time Advisory Committee Comments

Anchorage AC.....	AC1
Copper River/Prince William Sound AC	AC2
Matanuska Valley AC	AC3
Prince William Sound/Valdez AC	AC4
Sand Point AC.....	AC5
Whittier AC.....	AC6

**Anchorage Advisory Committee
Tuesday, October 6th, 2026
William Jack Hernandez Hatchery**

I. Call to Order: 6:08 pm by Kevin Taylor

II. Roll Call

N o	First Name	Last Name	Present/ Excused/ Unexcused
1	Kevin	Taylor	Present
2	Matt	Moore	Present
3	Nicole	Schmitt	Present
4	Bryce	Eckroth	Excused
5	Paul	Warta	Present
6	Christina	Ahlstrom	Excused
7	Ernie	Weiss	Present
8	Katya	Karankevich	Excused
9	Kneeland	Taylor	Present
10	J R	Gates	Excused
11	Michelle	Bittner	Present
12	Ed (Harold)	Horton	Unexcused
13	Scott	Crowther	Present
14	Tom	Vania	Excused
15	Lynette	Moreno Hinz	Excused
16	Matthew	Stone	Present
17	Frank	Cahill	Present

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Leila Williams

IV. Guests Present: Beth Rosenberg (member of the public): Provided comments on community desire to improve bear-human co-existence, seeks AC support in getting involved in clarifying the definition of negligence.

V. Approval of Agenda: Approved

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved

VII. Reports

a. Chair's report

i. Special Board of Game Meeting in July:

1. Reauthorize a non-intensive management predator control plan for muskox in Unit 26B. Amended to the exact text of RC22. C/A 5-2
2. Allow the use of verifiers, clarifiers, and non-electronic scopes in hunts for big game restricted to archery only. Amended to not allow the use of prism scopes. C-A 5-2
3. Allow the use of verifiers, clarifiers, and electronic scopes in hunts for big game restricted to archery only. F 0-7
4. Close a 2-mile-wide corridor along the Ambler Road to hunting and trapping. Tabled to Kotzebue meeting 5-2

- ii. Nelchina Herd Update: Read information from Todd Rinaldi "This summer's Nelchina herd population survey has revealed continued encouraging numbers, with over 17,800 caribou counted—more than 13,400 of which are adults. This represents a notable increase in herd size compared to the 2025 summer count, and the 2026 Rivest model projects the population may surpass 19,000 caribou.

Analyzing recruitment data from 2025 and early calf survival in 2026, we anticipate robust ratios exceeding 40 calves per 100 cows and 40 bulls per 100 cows. The cessation of hunting since RY23, coupled with relatively mild winters, has contributed to an improved bull-to-cow ratio, stronger recruitment, and high survival rates among recent cohorts. As you may recall a series of severe winters had previously led to a steep decline in the herd, so this positive shift is both welcome and significant.

To ensure sustainable management and prevent overharvest, we are employing a conservative approach on the state side and recommending the federal system do the same for RY2027. This approach would permit the harvest of 335 bulls, representing 2.5% of the minimum adult count from 2026, based on observed ratios of 32.3 calves per 100 adults in recent photographic surveys. Under the current ANILCA 804 restriction, federal harvest is expected to remain below 185 animals, leaving 150 bulls available for Tier II state hunters during RY27.

Tier II hunt permit stipulations differ from Tier I/CSH hunts, so please refer to the subsistence supplement for specific details. Should this hunt be offered, the following conditions would apply:

- Up to 150 Tier II (TC566) permits may be issued.
- Bull-only harvest during the fall season dates, no winter hunt will be held.
- A maximum of two TC566 permits can be issued per household.

- A five-day reporting requirement.
- A TC566 permit may be transferred to a resident relative within the second-degree of kindred.
- Proxy hunting is allowed; however, the proxy hunter must also be a TC566 permit holder and may only participate once per season per species in Unit 13.
- There is no requirement to hunt moose exclusively in Unit 13.

Given the tight timeline for the publication of the 2027-28 Subsistence Draw Hunt Supplement, we have included this “May be Announced” Tier II hunt for Fall 2027. We recognize there is limited time for your review and input before publication, so we strongly encourage you to discuss this proposal within your Advisory Committee and community and share your feedback with us as soon.” Todd is intending to attend the next AC meeting to share information and answer questions.

iii. Ernie will be the Fish Sub-committee chair.

iv. Residency bill AC subcommittee drafted comments on last year passed, Governor vetoed.

- b. ADF&G: N/A, beyond what was relayed from Todd Rinaldi during Chair’s report.
- c. Others: Fish Update from Ernie - last cycle has ethics complaints and litigation that ended with the AG voiding proposals impacting Area M fisheries. ACRs in this cycle seek to re-instate those proposals. Joint meeting with BOF, take no action on trawl, another meeting will occur at end of October.

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

- a. Confirm subcommittee assignments:
 - i. Fish: Ernie (Chair) Kevin, Bryce, Christina, Katya, Scott, Tom, Lynette,
 - ii. Game: Matt Moore (Chair), JR, Ed, Keenland, Michelle, Frank, Matt Stone, Nicole, Paul
 - iii. Western Arctic Working Group: Matt Moore; Forty-mile Working Group: JR ; Wood Bison Working Group: Nicole
- b. Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests: See below.
- c. Strengthening/Clarifying Alaska’s Regulations on Livestock Upkeep in Predator Territory: Resident in Eagle River reached out to the AC requesting that we get involved/engaged in amending 5 AAC 92.230 - Feeding of game regulations to include livestock. Michelle believes a citation could be given for leaving out feed

for livestock, but not for raising livestock that a predator eats as an “attractant”. This regulation doesn’t apply to livestock, but could apply to livestock that attract wildlife - likely needs to be clarified, but AC or BOG doesn’t seem to have authority to change the regulation. Discussion about differences between the Valley and Anchorage, pros and cons of an Anchorage area wildlife buffer.

Motion: Nicole, Michelle, Matt Moore, Paul to reach out to the Anchorage Bear Committee on behalf of the AC to communicate the concerns that were brought forward by the public and to inquire about ways the AC could be helpful and get involved in clarifying language that promotes coexistence in Anchorage. Passed unanimously. Discussion included an interest in having Anchorage-specific focus rather than statewide; emphasis on Municipal efforts.

d. Other Fish and Game Business as Needed: N/A

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
ACR 1	Increase subsistence fishing opportunity for salmon in the Copper River District (5 AAC 01.610)		
TNA			Doesn’t meet criteria for out-of-cycle, unanimous
ACR 2	Specify escapement objectives that must be met prior to opening the Copper River District to commercial fishing for salmon (5 AAC 24.310)		
TNA			Doesn’t meet criteria for out-of-cycle, unanimous
ACR 3	Reduce statewide private nonprofit salmon hatchery egg-take capacity to less than 100 million eggs annually (5 AAC 40.XXX)		
Oppose	0	9	Doesn’t meet criteria for being taken up out-of-cycle I abstain
ACR 4	Clarify allowable remote-controlled vehicle use and modify hook definitions in sport fishing regulation (5 AAC 75.020 and 5 AAC 75.995)		
Failed Motion	5	5	Support: Wasn’t discussed at last statewide meeting and should be discussed within next three years Oppose: Doesn’t meet criteria of out-of cycle
ACR 5	Reclassify European green crab from a class A to a class B banned invasive species (5 AAC 41.075)		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

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
Support	8	2	Support: Concerned about spread of European Green Crab and want to support eradication efforts Oppose: Doesn't meet criteria for out-of-cycle
ACR 6	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
Failed Motion	5	5	Discussion about ethics disclosures surrounding the passage of these proposals last year. Support: Want to provide opportunity for BOF to debate the issue on the merits without ethics issues Oppose: Does not meet criteria for out-of-cycle
ACR 7	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
Failed Motion	5	5	Discussion about ethics disclosures surrounding the passage of these proposals last year. Support: Want to provide opportunity for BOF to debate the issue on the merits without ethics issues Oppose: Does not meet criteria for out-of-cycle
ACR 8	Amend the <i>Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula</i> to enforce king salmon caps with reductions in commercial salmon fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366)		
TNA			See comments in 6 and 7
ACR 9	Reduce maximum gillnet depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to 70 meshes (5 AAC 09.331)		
TNA			See comments in 6 and 7
ACR 10	Amend Alaska Peninsula Area seine specification to reduce net size (5 AAC 09.332)		
TNA			See comments in 6 and 7
ACR 11	Prohibit discard of Chinook salmon caught in purse seine gear in the Alaska Peninsula and Chignik areas (5 AAC 09.373 and 5 AAC 15.364)		
Oppose	0	10	Oppose: Every Chinook counts, should not prohibit the live release of Chinook
ACR 12	Allow commercial fishing for salmon with set gillnet gear in the Southeastern District Mainland concurrent to commercial fishing periods for salmon in the Chignik Management Area (5 AAC 09.360)		
Oppose	0	10	Oppose: Does not meet standards for ACR
ACR 13	Establish a statewide Chinook retention and disposition reporting standard for commercial salmon fisheries (5 AAC 39.130)		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

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
Oppose	0	10	Oppose: Many small fisheries, too much to do in ACR and doesn't meet criteria for ACR urgency.

- XI. Set next meeting date: Currently Tuesday, November 10th, 2026
- XII. Other: Some members of BoG/BoF have expressed interest in listening in/attending AC meetings or sub-committee meetings to listen.
- XIII. Adjourn: Moved.
- XIV. Adjournment: 7:24pm

Minutes Recorded By: Nicole Schmitt
 Minutes Approved By: Kevin Taylor
 Date: 10/12/2026

Copper River/PWS Advisory Committee
Thursday, October 1st, 2026
CDFU Building & Zoom

I. Call to Order: At 1803 by Trae Lohse

II. Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Present	Excused/ Unexcused
Trae	Lohse	X	
Dennis	Zadra	X	
Kyle	King	X	
Garrett	Collins	X	
Jamie	Foode	X	
Ardy	Hanson	X	
Chelsea	Haisman		Excused
Brad	Sapp	X	
Brett	Bradford		Excused
Mike	Collins	X	
Dave	Glaser		Unexcused
Chris	Hottinger		Excused
Jake	West	X	
John	Renner	X	
Marc	Cloward		Excused
Aaron	Hansen	X	
Makena	O'Toole		Excused

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: Eight

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Todd Johnson, Leila Williams, Jackie Keating, Jeremy Botz, Sydney Walshak

IV. Guests Present: Samuel Roelke, Charlotte Sottany, Mark King

V. Approval of Agenda: John Renner (Second Garret Collins)

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Deferred to future meeting.

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report: Fish Chair- nothing to report.
Game Chair- Reported on attending RAC meeting and stated nothing new to report from RAC meeting
- b. ADF&G: Nothing to report.
- c. Others: None

VIII. Public Comment: None

IX. Old Business: Nothing reported

X. New Business

- a. Board of Fish Agenda Change Requests
- b. Other Fish and Game Business as Needed

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
ACR 1	Increase subsistence fishing opportunity for salmon in the Copper River District (5 AAC 01.610)		
Support	9	1	One member abstained due to being unsure what specific action was being requested to resolve the initial issue that prompted submission of this ACR. Through discussion the Copper River/PWS Advisory Committee decided that this ACR did in fact meet the criteria of an ACR under the reasoning, "to correct an effect on a fishery that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted". Some members of the committee noted that they believed the lost time for subsistence fishing on the Copper River Delta resulting from the 2024 BOF cycle that prompted this ACR was intentional rather than unforeseen. All members agreed that the amount of lost time and area for the subsistence users on the Copper River Delta needs to be addressed. The management strategy of coupling commercial fishing to subsistence has had drastic negative effects on accessibility to safe areas in which to harvest Copper River Salmon, especially to small vessels (open skiffs). The

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

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
			continued elimination of time and area for a priority fishery through the conjoined management has been the result, as stated in ACR 1. Member in opposition voiced that lost subsistence fishing opportunity was not unforeseen by BOF and that the ACR was broad in the changes it was requesting.
ACR 2	Specify escapement objectives that must be met prior to opening the Copper River District to commercial fishing for salmon (5 AAC 24.310)		
Oppose	0	11	Due to the very drastic changes made during the last in cycle BOF meeting for user groups in the lower Copper River, the Copper River/PWS Advisory Committee feels that this ACR does not meet the criteria to be accepted as an ACR out of cycle. Management of the Copper River drift gillnet fishery showed a willingness to close the commercial fishery on top of implementing further restrictions on area during the 2026 season. Some committee members felt this ACR was very allocative, and was an attempt to allocate more fish to other user groups.
ACR 3	Reduce statewide private nonprofit salmon hatchery egg-take capacity to less than 100 million eggs annually (5 AAC 40.XXX)		
Oppose	0	11	Without presenting new scientific data to support the theories that are stated in ACR 3, The Copper River/PWS Advisory Committee members do not believe this ACR met the criteria to be accepted in an out of cycle BOF meeting. Members stated that similar, if not the same ACR and proposals are being submitted at every opportunity with no new data. The process of these continued failed attempts has taxed resources and time not only from the BOF but also from the State of Alaska. Members brought up that they would like to see some change in the process to minimize the continuation of this practice.
ACR 4	Clarify allowable remote-controlled vehicle use and modify hook definitions in sport fishing regulation (5 AAC 75.020 and 5 AAC 75.995)		
No Action			No Comments
ACR 5	Reclassify European green crab from a class A to a class B banned invasive species (5 AAC 41.075)		
No Action			No Comments
ACR 6	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
No Action			No Comments

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

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
ACR 7	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
No Action			No Comments
ACR 8	Amend the <i>Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula</i> to enforce king salmon caps with reductions in commercial salmon fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366)		
No Action			No Comments
ACR 9	Reduce maximum gillnet depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to 70 meshes (5 AAC 09.331)		
No Action			No Comments
ACR 10	Amend Alaska Peninsula Area seine specification to reduce net size (5 AAC 09.332)		
No Action			No Comments
ACR 11	Prohibit discard of Chinook salmon caught in purse seine gear in the Alaska Peninsula and Chignik areas (5 AAC 09.373 and 5 AAC 15.364)		
No Action			No Comments
ACR 12	Allow commercial fishing for salmon with set gillnet gear in the Southeastern District Mainland concurrent to commercial fishing periods for salmon in the Chignik Management Area (5 AAC 09.360)		
No Action			No Comments
ACR 13	Establish a statewide Chinook retention and disposition reporting standard for commercial salmon fisheries (5 AAC 39.130)		
No Action			Some discussion took place with a result of No Action taken.

XI. Set next meeting date: Nov 11th 2026 at 1800

XII. Other: None

XIII. Adjourn: Called by Garret Collins (second by Ardy Hansen)

XIV. Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Kyle King

Minutes Approved By: Trae Lohse

Date: 10/12/2026

**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of Friday, October 9, 2026
Zoom Only**

I. Call to Order: 7:02pm, by Andy Couch, Vice Chair - Fisheries

II. Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Profile
Herb	Mansavage	Chair A/E
Dan	Montgomery	Vice Chair Game A/UE
Michelle	Heun	Secretary X
Andy	Couch	Vice Chair Fish X
Neil	DeWitt	X
Dom	Nickles	A/E
Hunter	Hongslo	X
Birch	Yuknis	A/E
Shawna	Williams	A/E
Robert (Bob)	Cassell	A/E
Daniel	Schmitz	X
Bruce	Privett	X (left meeting 8pm)
Steve	Bartelli	X
Dewey	Bitler	X
Pete	Imhof	A/E (provided written comments)
Danny	Lewis	Alternate X
Ron	Linder	Alternate A/E

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8 members

*Present: **9**

*Members Absent (Excused): **A/E - 7**

*Members Absent (Unexcused): **A/UE – 1**

List of User Groups Present: Hunting guide, sport hunter, subsistence hunter, fishing guide, commercial fishing, sport fishing, subsistence fishing, trapping, wildlife photographer, wildlife viewing, conservationist

III. Fish and Game Staff Present:

Ross Dorendorf, Wildlife Biologist 3, ADF&G (Palmer)
 Oliver Querin, Fishery Biologist 2, ADF&G (Palmer)
 Sam Oslund, Fishery Biologist 3, ADF&G (Palmer)
 Leila Williams, F&G Regulatory Program Assistant, ADF&G

IV. Guests Present:

Mark Richards, Resident Hunters of Alaska
 Gale Vick, Fairbanks Advisory Committee
 Corey Berg, Fishing Guide (Wasilla)
 Rod Arno, Alaska Outdoor Council
 Jacob Pryor
 Amber Allen
 Sterling Spilinek, Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission

V. Approval of Agenda

Acting Chair Couch suggested a motion to address the stock of concerns portion of the agenda before agenda change requests. Motion made by Michelle to reorder agenda to address stocks of concern first to before agenda change requests, to accommodate Samantha Osland (ADF&G area biologist); Hunter second. Friendly amendment to include Jim Creek weir-based escapement goal. Amended agenda passed without objection.

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes N/A

VII. Reports

a. Chair's report: Acting Chair Couch provided information to committee members: Board of Fisheries (BOF) changes adopted at the March board meeting for drift gillnet restrictions in Upper Cook Inlet to pass more coho to Northern Cook Inlet were not signed into law and did not go into effect during the 2026.

A similar situation occurred with Area M changes adopted by the BOF from this past board cycle — vacated by the state following a lawsuit by Aleutians East Borough and commercial interests, without court adjudication or public explanation from the Department of Law.

A partial BOF meeting is scheduled around October 20th to discuss process and may provide answers on regulatory status.

Acting Chair Couch expressed strong concern (regulatory abandonment) that the state abandoned board-adopted regulations without court adjudication: "I certainly don't want to see the state abandon regulations that have been adopted by the Board of Fisheries, whenever a group threatens for brings a lawsuit."

The AK DOL was present at board meetings and approved the process as lawful; the subsequent vacating without explanation may be unprecedented.

An Advisory Committee (AC) member asked if vacated Area M and Upper Cook Inlet regulations will ever be reinstated?

Couch stated there has been no public statement from the DOL; board members are being briefed privately. He stated he had emailed the Governor (no response), the Commissioner of Fish and Game (June response indicated regulations would be signed following legal approval). Mat-Su legislators (McCabe, Rauscher, and Johnson) were also contacted concerning the status of, or when Upper Cook Inlet changes would be effective— none were able to provide any additional information before the 2026 coho season ended.

b. ADF&G: None

c. Others: None

VIII. Public Comment

Acting Chair Couch provided an opportunity for each public member attending to give comment. Mark Richards, Resident Hunters of Alaska, stated Commissioner of Fish and Game is calling a special Board of Game meeting (date TBD, sometime in November) for a do-over on the Ambler Road proposal heard in July.

Gale Vick provided information from the Fairbanks AC Fisheries Subcommittee on the ACRs. Comments are due the 13th. On the 16th the joint protocol, and Oct 21 for the small BOF committee on process. A lot is happening before board. The Fairbanks AC took up ACRs 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 (first four are to reinstate proposals and amended language adopted by the BOF) that were vacated from Area M regulations. A lot of these came out of a lawsuit in April against the state — and in May the state abandoned specific BOF adopted regulations— as the case was based on ethics and/or conflict of interest. Two board members with complaints against their actions were quickly resolved. A third board member has a conflict-of-interest complaint-status unresolved; no public disclosure timelines have been given. Possibly the October 21th special BOF subcommittee meeting may provide some clarification.

The state vacated BOF adopted proposals in what Fairbanks AC Fisheries Subcommittee considers an egregious manor. The subcommittee took proposals that were adopted (with BOF amendments) and are asking for them to be reinstated. The AK DOL should explain, but there has been nothing. By requesting reinstatement of BOF adopted changes through the ACR process for conservation issues, there is hope this issue can be resolved before next summer's fishing season.

IX. Old Business None

X. New Business (as amended)

a. Stocks of Concern and Jim Creek Coho Goal for BOF Work Session-

Asked to Department — causes for coho decline? (Sam): Potential factors identified are channel scouring from flooding events throughout the Susitna and Little Susitna drainages displacing fry/smolt; northern pike predation in Little Susitna (Parker Bradley working to quantify); marine survival unknowns (timing, marine environment conditions).

The department's control has been limited to counting returning adults and managing human harvest activity; no current smolt abundance monitoring programs in Palmer.

(Following discussions and deliberations of stocks of concern were formatted in table similar to proposals format.)

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

Stocks of Concern Comments

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
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
	List Little Susitna River coho as a stock of management concern		
SUPPORT	9	0	Steve motioned to support listing Little Susitna River Coho as a stock of management concern; Second by Hunter. ADF&G (Sam): Little Susitna Coho has missed escapement goal four consecutive years: 2023–2026; in 2023, the weir was pulled at 83% of the run with only ~3,700 fish counted against a goal bottom end of 9,000. We are at 30% of the escapement goal and that's significant. Hunter: How much do we trust weir counts and are they being used / the fish going through the cage? (Sam): We did not run sonar in Little Su because it won't identify species. Weir counts are trusted: technicians physically identify

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

Stocks of Concern Comments

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
			every fish passing through a cage with a whiteboard; during high water, fish are lifted and passed over individually. Sonar cannot substitute at Little Susitna due to mixed species (sockeye, pinks, chums, coho, small kings, rainbows) with no reliable size cutoff for coho identification. Andy: During the last four years how many times has the little Susitna River sport fishery been restricted for coho and how many times has the fishery been closed for coho salmon harvest? Department (Sam): Little Susitna Coho restricted all four years (2023–2026) starting around August 6th, and closed to coho harvest all four years approximately a week or two after restriction. (Andy) this supports a Stock or Management Concern designation. ADF&G took management actions, but still didn't achieve the Little Susitna River goal each of the past four years. Dewey to (Sam): Any idea why no coho are not coming back? (Sam): Flooding events have been severe — at Deshka in 2026, floodwaters required camp evacuation with two feet of water in camp, making sonar use infeasible. The trend of coho escapement over time is similar to chinook. Big water events causing displacement in the river not good for salmon activity. Also, there is pike in the Little Su. Motion passed 9–0 to list Little Susitna River Coho as a stock of concern and management concern.
	Recommend designating the entire Susitna drainage coho salmon as a Stock of Yield Concern		
SUPPORT	9	0	Motion made by Steve to recommend designating the entire Susitna drainage coho salmon as a Stock of Yield Concern; Second by Hunter. Steve: Are there any tributaries in the Susitna that have been productive with silver returns? (Sam): Long-term (1984–2026) average harvest: 12,877 fish; 10-year (2016–2026) average: 8,098 fish; 5-year (2022–2026) average:

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

Stocks of Concern Comments

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
			approximately 2,000 fish — less than 20% of the long-term average. (Data viewed from shared screen.) Andy: The average harvest east and west side Susitna not including Yetna is less than 20% of long-term average. (Sam): On the Deshka there are incomplete counts. This is what we counted to escapement Fish and Jim Creek using the four weirs. Andy: Could be considered management concern. Andy: Yield concern. Any restrictions on the Susitna for coho? (Sam): Susitna reduced to one bag limit. Closed in 2024. Ride in 2025 and closed in 2026 by mid-August. The Susitna drainage coho was restricted in 2023 (one-bag limit), closed in 2024, left open in 2025 with Deshka reduced, and closed again by mid-August 2026. Andy: Document we didn't have enough fish and yield is off as we need escapement. Susitna River coho as stock of concern? Steve: The total numbers don't suggest an issue, but looking at Susitna does support stock of concern, but yield concerns as well. Andy: Any objection to list entire Susitna drainage as stock of concern for coho? Motion passed without objection 9–0 to list the entire Susitna drainage coho salmon as a stock of yield concern.
	Recommend Little Susitna River and Deshka River king salmon as Stock of Management Concern		
SUPPORT	9	0	Motion made by Dewey to recommend Little Susitna River king salmon as Stock of Management Concern; Steve second. Dewey: Let's do both Little Su and Deshka king salmon as stock of management concern. (Without objection.) (Sam): Little Susitna King Salmon missed escapement goals in 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026; goal was made in 2022 for a total of 4 consecutive years. Deshka River King Salmon last made escapement goal in 2021; missed 2022–2025 for a total of 5 consecutive years.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

Stocks of Concern Comments

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
			2026 Deshka forecast was the lowest in history at ~1,300 fish, but actual count came in just under 7,000 — still below the escapement goal bottom end. Andy: Little Susitna River has missed goal four consecutive years, Is ADF&G expecting to close the fishery by emergency order again next year? (Sam): The department does not make a projection for Little Susitna River king salmon, and a decision on how to manage the Little Susitna River king salmon fishery next year had not been made at this time. Andy: Following the trend, I expect the Little Susitna River king salmon fishery to be closed. The likelihood is so high I will not be offering any Little Susitna River king salmon charters for booking on my website this winter. This is important because according to the Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy, a Stock of Management Concern can also be designated based partially on future expected returns. Motion passed without objection 9-0 (vote not explicitly tallied separately) to list both Little Susitna River and Deshka River King Salmon as stocks of management concern. Deshka/Susitna River king salmon (see above).
	Recommend the Board of Fisheries fully reconsider if Theodore River King Salmon should be designated a Stock of Conservation Concern		
			Dewey moved to recommend the BOF fully consider if Theodore River King Salmon should be designated a Stock of Conservation Concern; Second by Michelle. (Sam): Escapement goal bottom end is ~500 fish; last made goal in 2007, with the fishery closed since approximately 2011. Recent aerial escapement counts: 2020 = 111 fish; 2021 = 38 fish; 2022–2023 = no data (high water); 2024 = 33 fish; 2025 = 30 fish; 2026 = no count due to flood conditions.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

Stocks of Concern Comments

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
			Steve: It's been over 20 years at Theodore since we could harvest fish. It's been consistently low. Does ADF&G know why Theodore declined sooner than other streams? (Sam): The Chuitna and Theodore Rivers show the same declining trend as the broader Chinook area-wide decline, but smaller systems show the effect faster. Lewis River disconnected from saltwater after hopping its bank and draining into a marsh — and is no longer monitored for escapement goals. Genetics data from 2016–2017 subsistence fishery at Tyonek showed 16–30% west Cook Inlet stock composition, indicating harvest of Theodore/Chuitna fish in mixed-stock fisheries. Steve: With ADF&G's data on other West Cook Inlet streams with similar declines, why we are only selecting one? There has been no retention in any of these rivers for a long time. Andy: Stock of Conservation Concern is based on a Sustainable Escapement Threshold (SET). No SET has been established for an Alaska salmon stock Theodore return. Danny: I've done a lot of work over the years on the westside and most of the fish are getting poached. When a fish is spotted, it is taken, making recovery extremely difficult. It's going to be tough to get those back. (Sam): The department has not established a Theodore River king salmon SET. Motion passed without objection 8–0 (Bruce Privett left 8pm) to recommend the board carefully consider if Theodore River King Salmon should be listed as a stock of conservation concern.
	Recommend establishment of a weir-based Jim Creek coho salmon goal		
SUPPORT	8	0	Steve moved to recommend establishment of a weir-based Jim Creek coho salmon goal; Second by Daniel. Andy: Jim Creek sockeye and coho passage has been measured by weir counts for 11 years; management restrictions (based on weir counts) were made in 2023 and 2024, but in 2025 and 2026 the

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

Stocks of Concern Comments

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
			fishery remained open all season without restrictions — while Little Susitna River and the Susitna River drainage fisheries were restricted and later closed to coho harvest. ADF&G is already using a Jim Creek weir-based metric (unpublished goal) to make in-season management decisions. This request is not for a specific goal (BEG, SEG, Optimal, Inriver, Lowerbound), but that the Jim Creek weir-based goal (to be used during the next regulatory cycle) be established in regulation and publicly available. Steve: Many years in the fall are lots of vehicles fishing both sides of Jim Creek; the last few years less activity. The returns for this watershed are not where they have been. I'm in support of having a metric. Danny: What does ADF&G feel about doing this? I've been fishing there since I was 16 and it's always been good. I know what BOF will do with this stuff. Seems we are wasting a lot of time. (Sam): Genetics might really help with this. We may be able to define productivity and outline a good goal. Angler days at Jim Creek have climbed to rival the Little Susitna, the 2nd largest sport coho fishery in Alaska after the Kenai. Jim Creek is later run timing than the Su, with fish trickling in. ADF&G is uncomfortable setting a SEG due to extremely high in-season exploitation (estimated at 61–64%), which prevents reliable productivity modeling for maximum sustained yield. Post-season foot survey on McRoberts Creek has been making goals: missed in 2019, made 2017, 2018, and every year since 2020. Fishery is closed Mondays and Tuesdays starting August 1st to slow harvest. Andy: High exploration has required in-season management. (Sam): Genetics data pending analysis (expected by January) may enable future goal-setting by allowing stock composition estimates and productivity modeling. As we collect data which will help define a good goal defining Jim Creek. Steve to (Sam): What metric are you looking?

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

Stocks of Concern Comments

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
			(Sam): The department acknowledges difficulty under current policy framework; genetics data (pending January) may enable future goal-setting via stock composition modeling. Steve to (Sam): Can a Jim Creek coho goal be established given the high exploitation rate? (Sam): The benefits of establishing a goal: Predictability for anglers, clearer in-season management triggers, and potential to liberalize the fishery (e.g., open 6–7 days/week) in high-abundance years. Motion passed 8–0 to recommend establishing a weir-based coho salmon goal for Jim Creek.

b. Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests (ACRs)

Leila: (Reads into record Pete Imhof on all the ACRs. Noted in the table comments.)

Danny: Seeing the state dropped it, law doesn't, I can't vote for any of that. I'll be a NO.

Andy, Motion approved: 7-1 passes.

Area M / ACR Process Concerns (From recorded transcript)

Under the current fleet control plan, Area M management will not be revisited until 2029.

Three board members were accused of conflict of interest; complaints against two were dismissed immediately; the third remains unresolved.

Copper River — ACR 2 Concerns (From recorded transcript)

The department managed Copper River as if early-season over-harvest could be compensated later; daily objectives were not met until June 6th; the cumulative objective range was not reached until July 9th.

A 24-hour commercial opening after first reaching cumulative objective pushed escapement back below the cumulative in-river goal range for the remainder of the season.

King salmon are primarily harvested early in the season (May–early June); sport harvest in 2026 was only 274 kings from ~1,400 permitted anglers (86% reporting).

Personal use fishery limit is one per household permit; Upper Copper River personal use household permit holder were not allowed to harvest even one Chinook for the last two years.

Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy calls for comparable harvest rates throughout the season — not being followed.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
ACR 1	Increase subsistence fishing opportunity for salmon in the Copper River District (5 AAC 01.610)		
TNA			*Note: Committee did not take up. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: We have a mixed stock fishery with kings and sockeye, and as most of you know in river users are and have been the burden of conservation with multiple years of restriction and complete closures for king salmon. We need to get a better handle on forecasts and sonar counts before we allow more interception of kings, or a reduction in the gill net fishery to allow more of an equal opportunity for all user groups. We have zero handle on escapement goals of kings in multiple rivers that feed the copper, other than one tower count on the Gulkana river with no goal just a count sort of like drawing funds from your checking account without knowing the balance. (I would love to support this but I cannot.) My vote is no.
ACR 2	Specify escapement objectives that must be met prior to opening the Copper River District to commercial fishing for salmon (5 AAC 24.310)		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

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
SUPPORT	8	0	Motion to support by Daniel S.; Second by Steve. Andy: The department is managing the Copper River as if they can harvest all the fish they want then make it up later on. Cumulative objection and daily objectives. The fishery can start as early as May 22. ADF&G didn't achieve a daily objective until June 6. Didn't reach a lower accumulative objective until July 9. Near the end of the season, they had a 24-hour opening and took the reduced escapement below the cumulative in-river range for the rest of the season. Copper is an in-river goal and they did not make that goal this year. All ACR 2 would do is ask at the start of the season that they would make one of their daily objectives before ADF&G opens commercial fishing. After the first commercial period when the mid-point of the cumulative range is not achieved ADF&G MAY close the commercial fishery until it the cumulative midpoint is attained. Aim at the mid-point of the range. Most of the commercial king harvest occurs in May and the part of June. This ACR addresses Conservation —primarily aimed at king salmon. Steve: I support Andy. Danny: Gulkana guide I support this ACR. Conservation. (Submitted into record by Ms. Williams on behalf Pete Imhof): Pete: 100 percent support. We all need to remember our kings are hurting throughout Alaska and management needs to step up and start protecting the lesser abundance of a mixed stock fishery even if it's at the expense of over escapement of the more abundant fish. My vote is to support.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
ACR 3	Reduce statewide private nonprofit salmon hatchery egg-take capacity to less than 100 million eggs annually (5 AAC 40.XXX)		
TNA			*Note: Committee did not take up. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: We've been down this road a few times, I do agree that there needs to be a reduction, for more than just helping our wild salmon, we need to think about the whole ecosystem that's been affected by hatcheries. My vote is to support.
ACR 4	Clarify allowable remote-controlled vehicle use and modify hook definitions in sport fishing regulation (5 AAC 75.020 and 5 AAC 75.995)		
TNA			*Note: Committee did not take up. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: Beach fisherman fishing for halibut using remote boats and drones? If there not using them then there using potato launchers with propane as their motive to move their bait 100s of feet into the saltwater, do we need regulations to fish from a float plane for halibut? I personally seen no issues with any of the above, as far as single hook and multiple hooks id have to say sometimes you do have to read them twice but feel its straight forward for the most part. I will say if I didn't grow up reading and understanding our regulations I might be slightly confused... we do tend to over regulate.
ACR 5	Reclassify European green crab from a class A to a class B banned invasive species (5 AAC 41.075)		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
TNA			
ACR 6	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
TNA			*Note: Committee did not take up. Ms. Vick recommended no action on ACR 6, noting it is nearly a duplicate of ACR 7 (ONC original vs. board-amended version) (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: Establish a 10-day consecutive closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in south Unimak. There's a huge conservation concern on the Yukon chums and king salmon, you got to have fish to make fish, we can't continue down the same road and expect different results. Support.
ACR 7	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
SUPPORT	7	1	Motion made by Steve to take up ACRs 7, 8, 9, and 10; Second by Michelle second. Steve: These are items previously reviewed and adopted by the BOF (before abandonment by the state). Fairbanks AC Fisheries Subcommittee re-submitted them and by my estimation they should come back up.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

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
			Andy: They were all reviewed and approved and should be brought up as they were originally approved. This is an error in regulation and unprecedented. The board has adopted, but were placed into regulation. It is very poor that the state did not defend its own actions. The process needs to adjust. There was no court decision showing specific adjustments that may be needed in the BOF process. Same thing for BOF regulations adopted for Upper Cook Inlet. The department's position is none of them meet the criteria for an ACR. I believe each of these proposals meet two ACR criteria: 1. Error in Regulation and 2. Conservation — the reason they were adopted before abandonment. Gale Vick: When these ACRs were put in we did this for conservation reasons. The error in regulation is a good commentary. From the Fairbanks AC Fisheries Subcommittee— Conservation issue 486,068 chum salmon bycatch reported in Area M during the three-week June fishery in 2026 — this is as "almost four times as many chums intercepted in Area M than in the Bering Sea trawl fleet operating several months out of the year." Area plan will not be revisited until 2029. We knew this was going to happen. 2014 Genetics report indicates most of those salmon are destined for the AYK (Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim) region. Danny: Seeing the state dropped it the law doesn't want to deal with it now. I'm a No. I'm not an attorney and none of us are. I'll pass. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: Same as above.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
ACR 8	Amen the <i>Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula</i> to enforce king salmon caps with reductions in commercial salmon fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366)		
SUPPORT	7	1	Motion made by Steve to take up ACRs 7, 8, 9, and 10; Second by Michelle second. Steve: These are items previously reviewed and adopted by the BOF (before abandonment by the state). Fairbanks AC Fisheries Subcommittee re-submitted them and by my estimation they should come back up. *See comments ACR 7 above. Danny: Seeing the state dropped it the law doesn't want to deal with it now. I'm a No. I'm not an attorney and none of us are. I'll pass. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: Once again, we have a conservation concern on kings. Support.
ACR 9	Reduce maximum gillnet depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to 70 meshes (5 AAC 09.331)		
SUPPORT	7	1	Motion made by Steve to take up ACRs 7, 8, 9, and 10; Second by Michelle second. Steve: These are items previously reviewed and adopted by the BOF (before abandonment by the state). Fairbanks AC Fisheries Subcommittee re-submitted them and by my estimation they should come back up. *See comments ACR 7 above.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
			Danny: Seeing the state dropped it the law doesn't want to deal with it now. I'm a No. I'm not an attorney and none of us are. I'll pass. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: Anything to help king and chum salmon recover and still be able to harvest sockeye is a good thing. Support.
ACR 10	Amend Alaska Peninsula Area seine specification to reduce net size (5 AAC 09.332)		
SUPPORT	7	1	Motion made by Steve to take up ACRs 7, 8, 9, and 10; Second by Michelle second. Steve: These are items previously reviewed and adopted by the BOF (before abandonment by the state). Fairbanks AC Fisheries Subcommittee re-submitted them and by my estimation they should come back up. *See comments ACR 7 above. Danny: Seeing the state dropped it the law doesn't want to deal with it now. I'm a No. I'm not an attorney and none of us are. I'll pass. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: Same as above. Support.
ACR 11	Prohibit discard of Chinook salmon caught in purse seine gear in the Alaska Peninsula and Chignik areas (5 AAC 09.373 and 5 AAC 15.364)		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
TNA			No motion to support. Ms. Vick offered to speak to ACR 11 and ACR 13. Steve: Mentioned not making a motion to support as he could not see that it clearly met the Conservation criteria (compared to ACRS 7, 8, 9, and 10 which had been previously adopted for conservation by the BOF). *Note: Committee did not take up. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: My only thought is how is this enforced? I do support.
ACR 12	Allow commercial fishing for salmon with set gillnet gear in the Southeastern District Mainland concurrent to commercial fishing periods for salmon in the Chignik Management Area (5 AAC 09.360)		
TNA			
ACR 13	Establish a statewide Chinook retention and disposition reporting standard for commercial salmon fisheries (5 AAC 39.130)		
TNA			No motion to support. Ms. Vick offered to speak to ACR 11 and ACR 13. Steve: Mentioned not making a motion to support as he could not see that it clearly met the Conservation criteria (compared to ACRS 7, 8, 9, and 10 which had been previously adopted for conservation by the BOF). *Note: Committee did not take up. (Comments below submitted by member Pete Imhof read into the record by Ms. Williams.) Pete: I support one standard, (retention and record).

c. Other Fish & Game Business as Needed None

XI. Next meeting date: Wednesday, November 11, 2026, 6:00pm, Mat-Su College in-person and zoom

XII. Other

XIII. Adjournment: 9:08pm

Minutes Recorded By: Michelle Heun, Secretary

Minutes Approved By: Andy Couch, Acting Chair

Date: 10/12/2026

PWS/Valdez Advisory Committee**Wednesday, October 7th, 2026****Over Zoom**

I. Call to Order: 16: 04 by Nick Crump

II. Roll Call

Name	Present	Excused/Unexcused
Nick Crump	Present	
Rowan Miller	Present	
Patrick Day		Unexcused
Brett Wilbanks	Present	
Jens Saxum	Present	
Bruce Bowman		Unexcused
Thane Miller	Present	
Justice Cousins	Present	
Hope Finley		Unexcused

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Todd Johnson, Jeremy Botz, Leila Williams

IV. Guests Present: David's iPad and Sharry Miller

V. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Nick Crump, 2nd by Thane Miller, no objections

VI. Reports

a. Chair's report

- i. New Business- appoint a vice chair; 13 ACRs, submit minutes by Oct 13th; Lower Cook Inlet proposals available, schedule meeting for the first week of November; there are some hatchery proposals; however, the board may make all hatchery proposals only at the statewide meeting every three years

b. ADF&G

c. Others

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

a. Officer Elections: Vice Chair Position

- i. Justice Cousins nominates Bruce Bowman for vice chair, 2nd by Thane Miller, no objections

b. Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests

c. Other Fish & Game Business as Needed

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes

Amended, Oppose, No Action			
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
ACR 1	Increase subsistence fishing opportunity for salmon in the Copper River District (5 AAC 01.610)		
Support	6	0	Brett thinks it's "highly allocative", Thane and Rowan think it's restoring allocation
ACR 2	Specify escapement objectives that must be met prior to opening the Copper River District to commercial fishing for salmon (5 AAC 24.310)		
Oppose	0	6	Not unforeseen, not necessary for conservation, allocative Recent changes to escapement goals have been made without enough time to assess their impact, so it is not necessary to take up out of cycle
ACR 3	Reduce statewide private nonprofit salmon hatchery egg-take capacity to less than 100 million eggs annually (5 AAC 40.XXX)		
Oppose	0	6	Relying on conservation reasoning about food supply and concluding that wild stocks are being harmed would require new information to support this out of cycle and that was not presented
ACR 4	Clarify allowable remote-controlled vehicle use and modify hook definitions in sport fishing regulation (5 AAC 75.020 and 5 AAC 75.995)		
Oppose	0	6	Nick thinks it's allocative; Brett thinks it would have more support if it were better written, but it's not an emergency, so it shouldn't be taken up out of cycle
ACR 5	Reclassify European green crab from a class A to a class B banned invasive species (5 AAC 41.075)		

Support	6	0	ADF&G denied a commissioner permit for a commercial fishery on green crab, which is considered a part of the process, as new things often need to be proposed multiple times before they are approved, and we consider this to be an emergency, so it should be heard as many times as possible as soon as possible
ACR 6	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
Oppose	0	6	Doesn't meet criteria
ACR 7	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
Oppose	0	6	Doesn't meet criteria
ACR 8	Amend the <i>Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula</i> to enforce king salmon caps with reductions in commercial salmon fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366)		
Oppose	0	6	Doesn't meet criteria
ACR 9	Reduce maximum gillnet depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to 70 meshes (5 AAC 09.331)		
Oppose	0	6	Doesn't meet criteria
ACR 10	Amend Alaska Peninsula Area seine specification to reduce net size (5 AAC 09.332)		
Oppose	0	6	Doesn't meet criteria
ACR 11	Prohibit discard of Chinook salmon caught in purse seine gear in the Alaska Peninsula and Chignik areas (5 AAC 09.373 and 5 AAC 15.364)		
Oppose	0	6	Doesn't meet criteria
ACR 12	Allow commercial fishing for salmon with set gillnet gear in the Southeastern District Mainland concurrent to commercial fishing periods for salmon in the Chignik Management Area (5 AAC 09.360)		
No Action	6	0	We don't understand this proposal and therefore choose to take no action

ACR 13	Establish a statewide Chinook retention and disposition reporting standard for commercial salmon fisheries (5 AAC 39.130)		
Oppose	0	6	Choosing to oppose for similar reasons as ACR 11

X. Set next meeting date

- a. Date set Nov 4th at 4 pm

XI. Other

- a. Rowan proposes having meetings in a physical location such as the library; Nick says no one shows up, it's a pain in the butt, and we'd have to schedule with more people. Thane says it's difficult to get attendance when meeting in person.

XII. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn by Brett, 2nd by Thane. Unanimous Consent

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Rowan Miller

Minutes Approved By: Nick Crump

Date: 10/13/2026

Sand Point Advisory Committee

Wednesday, Sept. 30th, 2026, at 1:00 PM | Sand Point City Council Chambers and Online/Teleconference

Join Online: [zoom link](#) | By Phone: 253 215 8782 | Meeting ID: 822 3224 1375 | Password: SWR

Draft Agenda

- I. Call to Order: [1:01 PM] by Patrick Brown
- II. Roll Call
Members Present: Patrick Brown, Emil Mobeck, George Gundersen, Ben Mobeck Sr., John Foster, Kiley Thompson

Members Absent (Excused):

Members Absent (Unexcused):

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 4

List of User Groups Present:
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Matt Keyes, Annie Brewster, Natalie Romo
- IV. Guests Present: David Osterback, Alvin Osterback, Arlene Gundersen, Tony Foster, Douglas Holmberg, Ernie Weiss, Colten Mack, Camden, Cyrus, Jaxon, Clarence,
- V. Approval of Agenda: Motion by John, Second by George
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Previously approved and submitted
- VII. Public Comment - Are there any results yet from the audit of the Board of Fisheries?
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
 - a. Discuss ACR's 6-13:
Discussion of ACRs
ACR 6- Submitted by tribe from Bethel, Kuskokwim river system
65-120k SEG, Escapement 2026 - 557,000

- Subsistence opportunities, commercial openers
- Chinook Escapement 2026 - 95K (SEG 65-120K)
- Department comments: Does not meet criteria
- Rehash of 2026 Spring BOF Meeting
- No new information other than CWAK stocks are rebounding
- Yukon run was strong
- ACR was preemptive, and anticipatory of a potential emergency situation
- Nushagak Chum harvest was low this year due to lack of fishing opportunities in the district because of Chinook conservation
- Proposal was ultimately overturned due to ethics violations by the Attorney General

ACR 7 - Reference comments from ACR 6, almost identical proposals

- Implication of allocation criteria in ACR language
- 1800 Chinook caught in June, mostly in South Unimak

ACR 8 - Allocative

- Does not meet ACR criteria

ACR 9 - Does not meet ACR criteria

- Highly speculative on which kind of fish shallower nets won't catch
- Allocative

ACR 10 - Does not meet ACR Criteria

- Speculative of species exclusion
- A couple boats actually shallowed up their nets in response to the rule change, but it didn't change the proportions and percentages of the species they caught in relation to fishermen fishing in the same line up

ACR 11 - Does not meet ACR criteria

- Department opposes
- Takes away Department ability to allow non retention
- Would take away Chignik's ability to return live chinooks to the water
- Tagged and released Chinooks have a high survival rate
- Chignik Chinook haven't hit the bottom end of their escapement goals until non-retention was enforced by emergency order
- Retained fish in a fish hold have a 0% chance of returning to their natal streams
- Non-retention of Chinook salmon has in turn shown an uptick in conservation
- Could negatively affect Chignik Chinooks if they can't return chinooks caught in Chignik Lagoon

ACR 12 - Low catches for set net fishermen

- Lack of opportunity and area

- Chignik fishing from June 20 through the end of the season
- Escapement goals met, no conservation concerns
- 300,000 caught before July 8 in order to fish
- Chignik effort is lower than normal
- Setnet fleet is shrinking, set netters are being forced out economically, for lack of time and area, can't afford to operate
- Genetic information is outdated and hasn't been updated since WASSIP

ACR 13 - Anti-conservation

- Will increase Chinook mortality substantially
- Could cause troll fishermen in SE to over harvest Chinooks
- Yukon chinooks could not be released under this regulation
- Any fish caught in a natal stream would have to be retained and could not spawn
- Department opposes
- Ties the Department's hands
- Does not meet ACR criteria

- b. Appoint single member to approve Meeting minutes to accommodate on time comment submission
 - Kiley will approve minutes compiled by Patrick
 - No representation by AC Members at Work Session
 - Write a letter to the Executive Director and Chair about AC representation at Work Session meetings
 - It's important that public input from AC representatives be heard by the Board, especially in light of an ongoing audit, as well as ethics and Board procedure that we should be privy to

- X. Set next meeting date
 - a. October 14, 2026, 1PM in City Chambers

XI. Other

XII. Adjourn 2:35 PM

Work Session October 28-29, 2026 Anchorage, AK			
ACR Number	ACR Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to ACR, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
6	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 09.365).		
	0	6	This ACR does not meet the criteria set forth in 5 AAC 39.999. The Department comments support this statement.
7	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 09.365).		
	0	6	This ACR does not meet the criteria set forth in 5 AAC 39.999. The Department comments support this statement.
8	Amend the Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula to enforce king salmon caps with reductions in commercial salmon fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366).		
	0	6	This ACR does not meet the criteria set forth in 5 AAC 39.999. The Department comments support this statement.
9	Reduce maximum gillnet depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to 70 meshes (5 AAC 09.331).		
	0	6	This ACR does not meet the criteria set forth in 5 AAC 39.999. The Department comments support this statement.
10	Amend Alaska Peninsula Area seine specifications to reduce net size (5 AAC 09.332).		
	0	6	This ACR does not meet the criteria set forth in 5 AAC 39.999. The Department comments support this statement.

Work Session October 28-29, 2026 Anchorage, AK			
ACR Number	ACR Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to ACR, Voting Notes
11	Prohibit discard of Chinook salmon caught in purse seine gear in the Alaska Peninsula and Chignik areas (5 AAC 09.373 and 5 AAC 15.364).		
	0	6	This ACR does not meet the criteria set forth in 5 AAC 39.999. The Department comments support this statement.
12	Allow commercial fishing for salmon with set gillnet gear in the Southeastern District Mainland concurrent to commercial fishing periods for salmon in the Chignik Management Area (5 AAC 09.360).		
	6	0	
13	Establish a statewide Chinook salmon retention and disposition reporting standard for commercial salmon fisheries (5 AAC 39.130).		
	0	6	This ACR does not meet the criteria set forth in 5 AAC 39.999. The Department comments support this statement.

XIII.

XIII.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Kiley ThompsonMinutes Approved By: Kiley ThompsonDate: 10/13/2026

To: Alaska Board of Fisheries

From: Sand Point Advisory Committee

Subject: Comments on ACRs 6–13 and Advisory Committee Participation

Date: October 13, 2026

Greetings Madam Chair and Esteemed Members of the Board,

The Sand Point Advisory Committee submits these comments regarding Agenda Change Requests (ACRs) 6–13 discussed at its September 30, 2026 meeting. Our comments reflect the recorded committee discussion and voting record concerning salmon conservation, commercial fishing opportunity, management flexibility, and the importance of meaningful participation by local advisory committees in the Board of Fisheries process.

The committee recognizes the importance of conservation and sustainable salmon management. At the same time, regulatory changes should be supported by sound scientific information, demonstrated conservation benefits, and a clear understanding of their effects on the different fisheries and communities that depend on these resources.

II. Comments on ACRs 6–13

ACRs 6 and 7 — Proposed June Fishing Closures

ACRs 6 and 7 would establish a 10-consecutive-day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear under the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.

The committee discussed concerns regarding the conservation rationale and the potential allocation implications of these proposals. The Department of Fish and Game indicated that the requests did not meet the criteria for an agenda change request.

The committee is concerned that additional restrictions should not be advanced without new information demonstrating a specific conservation need and a reasonable expectation that the proposed restrictions would achieve their intended purpose.

The committee's recorded vote was 6 opposed and zero in support for each ACR.

ACR 8 — Chinook Salmon Caps and Commercial Fishing Time

ACR 8 proposes changes to the Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula to enforce Chinook salmon caps through reductions in commercial fishing time.

The committee discussed the allocative implications of the proposal and the Department's determination that it did not meet the criteria for an agenda change request.

Restrictions on commercial fishing time can have consequences beyond the targeted species, affecting access to other salmon stocks and the economic viability of fishing operations. Any such restrictions should be supported by clear evidence of conservation necessity and an evaluation of their broader effects.

The committee's recorded vote was 6 opposed and zero in support.

ACR 9 — Proposed Reduction in Gillnet Depth

ACR 9 proposes reducing maximum gillnet depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to 70 meshes.

The committee discussed concerns that the proposal relies on assumptions about which species would or would not be caught by shallower nets. The effectiveness of a gear restriction should be demonstrated through reliable evidence rather than speculation about changes in species composition.

The committee encourages the Board to consider whether the proposed restriction would produce a measurable conservation benefit and whether that benefit justifies the resulting limitations on commercial fishing.

The committee's recorded vote was 6 opposed and zero in support.

ACR 10 — Proposed Reduction in Seine Net Size

ACR 10 proposes amending Alaska Peninsula Area seine specifications to reduce net size.

The committee discussed observations that some fishermen had already shallowed their nets in response to regulatory changes, without an apparent change in the proportions of species caught relative to fishermen operating in the same fishing lineup.

These observations raise questions about whether further gear restrictions would achieve their intended selective-harvest objectives. Before implementing additional restrictions, the Board should consider available fishery observations and scientific evidence demonstrating that the proposed changes would materially reduce unwanted Chinook salmon harvest or otherwise improve conservation outcomes.

The committee's recorded vote was 6 opposed and zero in support.

ACR 11 — Prohibition on Discarding Chinook Salmon

ACR 11 proposes prohibiting the discard of Chinook salmon caught in purse seine gear in the Alaska Peninsula and Chignik areas.

The committee discussed concerns about the conservation consequences of eliminating the ability to release live Chinook salmon. The meeting record notes that tagged-and-released

Chinook salmon have demonstrated high survival rates and that non-retention requirements have been associated with improved conservation outcomes for Chignik Chinook salmon.

Requiring fishermen to retain Chinook salmon that could otherwise be released alive may increase fishing-related mortality and prevent fish from returning to their natal streams. Fish retained in a fish hold cannot return to their spawning grounds, whereas live fish released under appropriate circumstances may survive and contribute to escapement.

The committee is also concerned that a mandatory retention requirement could interfere with the Department's ability to respond to changing conservation conditions through emergency orders and other management actions.

Management regulations should preserve the Department's ability to use the best available information to determine when live release is appropriate. A statewide or area-specific retention requirement should not eliminate a management tool that may benefit Chinook salmon conservation.

The committee's recorded vote was 6 opposed and zero in support.

ACR 12 — Southeastern District Mainland Set-Gillnet Opportunity

ACR 12 proposes allowing commercial salmon fishing with set gillnet gear in the Southeastern District Mainland concurrent with commercial salmon fishing periods in the Chignik Management Area.

The committee discussed the limited fishing opportunity available to setnet fishermen, the economic pressures facing the setnet fleet, and the need to evaluate whether existing restrictions continue to provide an appropriate balance between conservation and access.

The meeting record notes that the Chignik fishery operated from June 20 through the end of the season, that escapement goals were met, and that no conservation concerns were identified in the discussion. The committee also discussed the level of fishing effort and the economic challenges faced by setnet operators who have limited time and area in which to fish.

A fishery's regulatory framework should be evaluated not only in terms of conservation but also in terms of whether reasonable fishing opportunity remains available to participants who depend on that opportunity for their livelihoods.

The committee further discussed concerns that genetic information used in evaluating these fisheries has not been updated since the Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Program (WASSIP). Updated stock-identification information would help ensure that management decisions reflect current scientific understanding of stock composition and migration patterns.

The committee supports consideration of this proposal in light of the documented concerns regarding setnet fishing opportunity, fleet viability, and the need for updated genetic information.

The committee's recorded vote was 6 in support and zero opposed.

ACR 13 — Statewide Chinook Salmon Retention and Disposition Reporting

ACR 13 proposes establishing a statewide Chinook salmon retention and disposition reporting standard for commercial salmon fisheries.

The committee discussed concerns that a mandatory retention framework could substantially increase Chinook salmon mortality, limit the Department's management flexibility, and prevent live Chinook salmon from returning to their natal streams.

The committee is concerned that requiring retention of fish that could otherwise be released alive may undermine conservation objectives, particularly where Chinook salmon stocks are experiencing difficulty meeting escapement goals. The meeting record also identifies concerns regarding potential effects on southeastern Alaska troll fisheries and the ability to release Yukon River Chinook salmon.

The Board should distinguish between the need for accurate reporting and the separate question of whether fish must be retained. Improved reporting may support effective management, but reporting requirements should not inadvertently create additional mortality or prevent the Department from adopting conservation measures appropriate to individual fisheries.

The committee encourages the Board to preserve management flexibility and ensure that any statewide reporting standard is designed to support, rather than undermine, Chinook salmon conservation.

The committee's recorded vote was 6 opposed and zero in support.

III. Importance of Scientific Information and Fishery-Specific Management

Across these proposals, the committee emphasizes the need for regulatory decisions to be based on reliable scientific information and demonstrated conservation benefits.

The Board should carefully evaluate whether proposed restrictions are likely to accomplish their stated objectives, particularly when those restrictions may affect multiple salmon species or impose significant economic consequences on commercial fishermen.

The committee also encourages continued collaboration between the Department, scientists, and fishermen. Fishery observations and local knowledge can help identify practical questions, evaluate the effectiveness of existing regulations, and inform the development of improved management strategies.

Where stock-identification information is outdated or the effects of a proposed gear restriction remain uncertain, the Board should consider whether additional research and analysis are warranted before adopting further restrictions.

IV. Advisory Committee Representation at Board of Fisheries Work Sessions

The Sand Point Advisory Committee also discussed the absence of advisory committee representation at Board of Fisheries work sessions and the importance of ensuring that local perspectives are heard during Board deliberations.

Advisory committees provide an important connection between local fishing communities, resource users, the Department, and the Board. Their members bring practical experience with local fisheries, management measures, conservation conditions, and the economic effects of regulatory decisions.

The committee expressed concern that the absence of advisory committee representatives at work sessions limits opportunities for local input, particularly when issues involve Board procedure, ethics, and ongoing review of Board processes.

The committee intends to communicate these concerns to the Board's Executive Director and Chair and requests that the Board consider a process that provides meaningful opportunities for advisory committee representation and participation at work sessions.

Local advisory committee input should be considered an important component of an open, informed, and accountable fisheries management process.

V. Conclusion

The Sand Point Advisory Committee urges the Board of Fisheries to carefully evaluate the conservation benefits, scientific basis, allocation implications, and economic effects of the proposals addressed in these comments.

The committee's recorded votes reflect opposition to ACRs 6–11 and 13 and support for ACR 12. The committee encourages the Board to preserve effective management tools, avoid unnecessary restrictions that lack demonstrated benefits, maintain reasonable commercial fishing opportunity, and ensure that regulatory decisions are informed by current science and practical fishery knowledge.

The committee further requests meaningful advisory committee participation in Board of Fisheries work sessions so that local perspectives can be heard and considered in the development of fisheries policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Sand Point Advisory Committee

Whittier Advisory Committee
Monday, October 5th, 2026
Zoom Only

- I. Call to Order: 4:05pm by Chair David Pinguoch
- II. Roll Call
Members Present:

Name	Present	Excused/Unexcused
David Pinguoch	X	
Brett Wilbanks	X	
James Norris		Excused
Brett Roth	X	
Jody Mason	X	
Gordon Scott	X	
Brad von Wichman	X	
Bruce Bowman		Excused
Matt Kopec	X	

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5

List of User Groups Present:

- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Jeremy Botz, Todd A. Johnson, Leila Williams
- IV. Guests Present: Richard Ragan, Chase Berenson, Michael Durtschi, Reiker Durtschi
- V. Approval of Agenda: Approved by unanimous consent
- VI. Reports
 - a. Chair's report:
 - i. Getting group of interested individuals together to create a Whittier Sport Fish Management Plan to address gaps in current management, noting that commercial fishermen have a plan while sport fishermen do not
 - 1. **Objectives:** The plan aims to review historical data, protect natural runs, and potentially address allocation issues to reduce conflict between sport and commercial fishers.
 - 2. **Strategy:** The committee will look at existing plans from the Copper River, Kenai, and Matanuska River to mimic successful frameworks.
 - ii. Jim Norris stepped down as secretary, will have new

appointment/election at next meeting

1. Dave will be secretary for this meeting

b. ADF&G

- i. Jeremy Botz: Commercial fishing updates

1. Bad season for commercial fishermen due to lower numbers for most species of salmon

VII. Public Comment:

- a. Michael Durtschi: [In regards to ACR 3] I've been a commercial fisherman in the sound for 25 years and an Alaska commercial fishermen for 35 years. I'd like to see a comment that, at some point, when do we quit hashing hatchery proposals over and over? I ask that the committee not take up the ACR.
- b. Reiker Durtschi: Please don't take up ACRs 6-10 as the exact same board will be voting on the previous regulations that basically got thrown out after the state level higher than the Board of Fish basically said that they abused their power and made decisions based on interests of their own

VIII. New Business:

- a. Election for Alternate Members
 - i. Richard Ragan elected as alternate
- b. Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests
 - i. Comment Deadline: Tuesday, October 13th, 2026
- c. Other Fish & Game Business as Needed

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session October 28-October 29, 2026 Anchorage, AK Comment Deadline October 13, 2026			
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
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
ACR 1	Increase subsistence fishing opportunity for salmon in the Copper River District (5 AAC 01.610)		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

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
ACR 2	Specify escapement objectives that must be met prior to opening the Copper River District to commercial fishing for salmon (5 AAC 24.310)		
ACR 3	Reduce statewide private nonprofit salmon hatchery egg-take capacity to less than 100 million eggs annually (5 AAC 40.XXX)		
TNA			This proposal is more severe than other hatchery proposals in the past. This would be cutting production by almost 20 times the amount asked previously (based on a 25% production reduction). There are members that are not fans of hatcheries and they way they are managed, but these members do not want to take actions that would be detrimental to the Sound and to fisheries as they exist today. There would many less fish in the Sound due to this proposal if it were to pass. Brett Wilbanks made a motion to support hatchery proposals being restricted to the statewide finfish cycle every three years to put all hatchery proposals on an equal playing field for all regions. Gordon Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
ACR 4	Clarify allowable remote-controlled vehicle use and modify hook definitions in sport fishing regulation (5 AAC 75.020 and 5 AAC 75.995)		
TNA			This ACR was flagged by multiple AC members as being too vague. The actual proposal was more confusing that the regulations it sought to clarify. The submitter themselves labeled it as allocative, which would likely bar it at the board level. The underlying concern is legitimate, but the ACR lacks specificity to be actionable.
ACR 5	Reclassify European green crab from a class A to a class B banned invasive species (5 AAC 41.075)		
SUPPORT	7	0	European green crab has been shown to out-compete Dungeness crab and is becoming a growing problem in southern Southeast Alaska. Because the problem is so rapid-spreading, the AC members feel that this ACR meets criteria as an emergency as waiting until 2028 would take too long and the fishery might not

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Requests for Work Session

October 28-October 29, 2026 | Anchorage, AK | Comment Deadline October 13, 2026

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
			recovery as easily, making it a fish conservation concern. Currently no green crabs in the Sound.
ACR 6	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
TNA			Though a member of the public wanted ACRs 6-10 to be brought up and commented on by the AC, the committee has established the practice of not weighing in on proposals outside of its area of familiarity or local knowledge, particular for highly specific regional fisheries like Area M. Committee members agreed to take no actions on ACRs 6-10.
ACR 7	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the <i>South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan</i> (5 AAC 09.365)		
TNA			See comments on ACR 6.
ACR 8	Amend the <i>Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula</i> to enforce king salmon caps with reductions in commercial salmon fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366)		
TNA			See comments on ACR 6.
ACR 9	Reduce maximum gillnet depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to 70 meshes (5 AAC 09.331)		
TNA			See comments on ACR 6.
ACR 10	Amend Alaska Peninsula Area seine specification to reduce net size (5 AAC 09.332)		
TNA			See comments on ACR 6.
ACR 11	Prohibit discard of Chinook salmon caught in purse seine gear in the Alaska Peninsula and Chignik areas (5 AAC 09.373 and 5 AAC 15.364)		
ACR 12	Allow commercial fishing for salmon with set gillnet gear in the Southeastern District Mainland concurrent to commercial fishing periods for salmon in the Chignik Management Area (5 AAC 09.360)		
ACR 13	Establish a statewide Chinook retention and disposition reporting standard for commercial salmon fisheries (5 AAC 39.130)		

- IX. Set next meeting date?
 - a. None so far, but would need secretary officer election at that meeting
- X. Other
 - a. Resubmitting AC letter from SB161 action to Joint Protocol Committee meeting on 10/16/26 (to be completed by Brett Wilbanks)
- XI. Adjourn: by David Pinguoch at 5:20pm

XII. Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: David Pinguoch
Minutes Approved By: Brett Wilbanks
Date: 10/13/2026