

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH Fish & Wildlife Commission

350 E Dahlia Ave., Palmer, Alaska 99645

CHAIRPERSON

Mike Wood

VICE CHAIR

Andy Couch

MSB STAFF

Ted Eischeid



BOARD MEMBERS

Howard Delo

Larry Engel

Tim Hale

Peter Probasco

Rob Yundt

Kendra Zamzow

Ex officio: Jim Sykes

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

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Regular Meeting

02/16/2023

Pg. = Item:

- 1 = Agenda
- 3 = February 16, 2023 Draft Meeting MINUTES
- 7 = FWC 2020 BOF Goals
- 11 = BOF 2020 FWC Goal Attainment Analysis
- 15 = MSB State Legislative FY24 Priorities: Fish & Wildlife
- 17 = Draft BOF 24 Goals for consideration
- 19 = Draft ADF&G Game Season Summary Questions
- 21 = NPFMC Update Email from 1/4/2023

Physical Location of Meeting: LLCR, DSJ Bldg, 350 E. Dahlia Ave., Palmer.

Remote Participation: See attached agenda.

Planning and Land Use Department - Planning Division

Cell Phone (907) 795-6281

<http://www.matsugov.us> • planning@matsugov.us

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission
AGENDA

Edna Devries, Mayor

Mike Wood – Chair
Andy Couch – Vice Chair
Howard Delo
Larry Engel
Tim Hale
Peter Probasco
Rob Yundt
Kendra Zamzow
Jim Sykes – Ex officio member

Ted Eischeid – Staff
Maija DiSalvo - Staff



Michael Brown, Borough Manager

PLANNING & LAND USE DEPARTMENT
Alex Strawn, Planning & Land Use Director
Kim Sollien, Planning Services Manager
Jason Ortiz, Development Services Manager
Fred Wagner, Platting Officer

*Lower Level Conference Room
Dorothy Swanda Jones Building
350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer*

February 16, 2023
REGULAR MEETING
4:00 p.m.

Ways to participate in MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission meetings:

IN PERSON: Lower Level Conference Room, DSJ Building, 350 E. Dahlia Ave, Palmer.

REMOTE PARTICIPATION:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

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- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM/LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - 1. February 2, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes
- VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*three minutes per person, for items not scheduled for public hearing*)
- VII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - 1. Board Of Fisheries 2024 Meeting Goals & Proposals
 - 2. ADF&G Game Season Summary Meeting Planning
 - 3. North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
- IX. NEW BUSINESS
- X. MEMBER COMMENTS
- XI. NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 16, 4 PM, LLCR.
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

Disabled persons needing reasonable accommodation in order to participate at a MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting should contact the borough ADA Coordinator at 861-8432 at least one week in advance of the meeting.

MSB FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION**Special Meeting: February 2, 2023****Minutes**

DSJ Building, Lower Level Conference Room //TEAMS Remote Participation

Minutes prepared by Ted Eischeid, Planner

-
- I. CALL TO ORDER
Meeting called to order at 4:08 PM by chair Mike Wood.
- II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM/LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Present:
Mike Wood = MW
Andy Couch = AC
Howard Delo = HD
Larry Engel = LE
Tim Hale = TH
Pete Probasco = PP
Kendra Zamzow = KZ
Jim Sykes = JS
- Absent:
Rob Yundt
- Quorum established.
- MW read the Land Acknowledgement:
We acknowledge that we are meeting on traditional lands of the Ahtna and Dena'ina people, and we are grateful for their stewardship of the land, fish, and wildlife throughout time immemorial.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Moved by HD; LE
KZ moved to amend by striking Unfinished Business Item VIII #2; second by PP.
Changes: Delete UFB 2. Amendment passes
Action: Passes as amended.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
a. January 19, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.
Moved by LE; Seconded HD
Corrections: Noted by AC; KZ;
Motion passed as corrected without objection.
- VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*three minutes per person, for items not scheduled for public hearing*):
1. Eileen Probasco.

2. Eric Booton, TU: Thanks FWC for their work;
3. Becky Long, Talkeetna: Read the new FWC 23-01; had some comments.
4. Jessica Speed, SHP/TU: functioning riparian areas are important; wants to listen.
5. Neil Dewitt, public: interest in the setbacks, just listening.

VII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS
A. Staff Report – Ted Eischeid

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Resolution FWC 23-01 Updated on Draft Assembly OR 23-002 waterbody setbacks

Motion: PP moves FWC 23-01 updated; LE second.

Discussion:

HD: Likes the SOA DF setbacks for logging that KZ shared; would like to see a reference to this in the FWC RS.

KZ: the requirement for vegetation is important within the setback.

AC: supports HD ideas.

HD: moved to amend RS FWC 23-01 by adding the two *whereas* from red p. 43 in packet; AC second.

KZ: suggested slight language changes that were accepted by HD/AC.

Amendment passes unanimously.

AC: Likes maintaining the 75' setback along with PP/KZ work, likes RS 23-01.

LE: can the work group describe the changes they made and why? KZ: I agree that there was too much specificity in the original FWC 23-01 that could use streamlining; PP: we have to remember that we are advisory, and we need to present a RS that is clear and helpful, where specifics create a "rabbit hole"; both resolutions had good points that we wanted to include.

KZ: maybe we should discuss whether we should maintain the 75' setback for lakes, not sure that would be received well by the Assembly;

JS: first *whereas* has some language issues via the use of "buzz words" like "responsible resource development";

PP: we are drafting a resolution and can't develop the criteria to safeguard habitat; moreover we are the FWC and we bring forth our science expertise to our RS; the 75' setback is a standard that allows for further discussion;

MW: This whole thing has been an education for me, referred to a previous undeveloped property

they developed; people don't know about the MSB setback requirements; learning about the issue that code violations can't get financing for home improvements/sales – this needs to be addressed; I wonder if on lakes we could consider a "less than 75'" setback if additional standards are met?

PP: for some anadromous species on lakes, the near-shore habitat is the most critical for juveniles.

Eileen Probasco: see packet p. 41, #5 and 6, these address some of the earlier concerns; LE agrees – this part allows the exception for the 75' setback where needed.

HD: doesn't want to lessen the setback on septic systems.

Neil Dewitt: noted the 100' SOA Division of Forestry logging activity setback.

HD: logging impacts may be greater than the impacts of a habitable structure; Division of Forestry goal is to maintain a vegetated buffer.

JS: Packet p. 40, number 4, introduces 5 and 6; we are trying to ensure that we have a 75' setback that has been a working standard for a long time; we also want to provide a path for compliance for those who violate it and this resolution does that.

Eileen Probasco: OR 23-002 only deals with structure setbacks, not septic systems.

LE: The setback history, and how it changed over time, should be remembered; the public actually voted for the 75' setback at one point after the Assembly reduced it.

PP: I like points 7 and 8 as this helps developers comply with MSB cod.;

KZ: Moved to strike: "including responsible resource development" from the first whereas; Second by HD; Amendment passes unanimously.

PP: moves to amend by adding a Whereas... that details the history of the setback ordinance; (see red page 100 of January 19 packet) as follows as the 5th whereas: WHEREAS, the current Matanuska-Susitna Borough code that requires a 75' waterbody setback has been in place since 1973, was reduced to a 45' setback in 1986 but then reinstated back to a 75' in 1987 by voter initiative; second by KZ; Passes without objection.

Moved to amend KZ: Red page 39 whereas...moves to delete from p. 39, second from bottom; second by PP/AC; Amendment passes unanimously.

KZ: Purpose of Landuse permit is to educate people about code; packet red page 44, that the tax postcards could include educational info; Eileen says that's not allowed; PP: we need to have this so staff can educate developers on setbacks.

Eileen Probasco: mandatory land use permit legislation will be separate from setbacks; there is

always a lot of public notice with new requirements;

Amendment: PP: LE second.

5: between “structures” and “provide” add: “with a waterbody setback violation”.

5: after “nonpoint source” add: z’pollution”;

Amendment passes unanimously.

Amendment by HD, LE second

6: add “pollution” after the word “source”.

Amendment passes unanimously.

Final Action:

RS FWC 23-01, as amended;

Motion passes unanimously.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. MEMBER COMMENTS

1. MW: wants to talk about proposals for BOF.

TH: thank you

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, February 16, 4 PM, LLCR.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by LE; TH second

Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting stands adjourned at 5:29 PM

Mike Wood, FWC Chair

Dated

ATTEST:

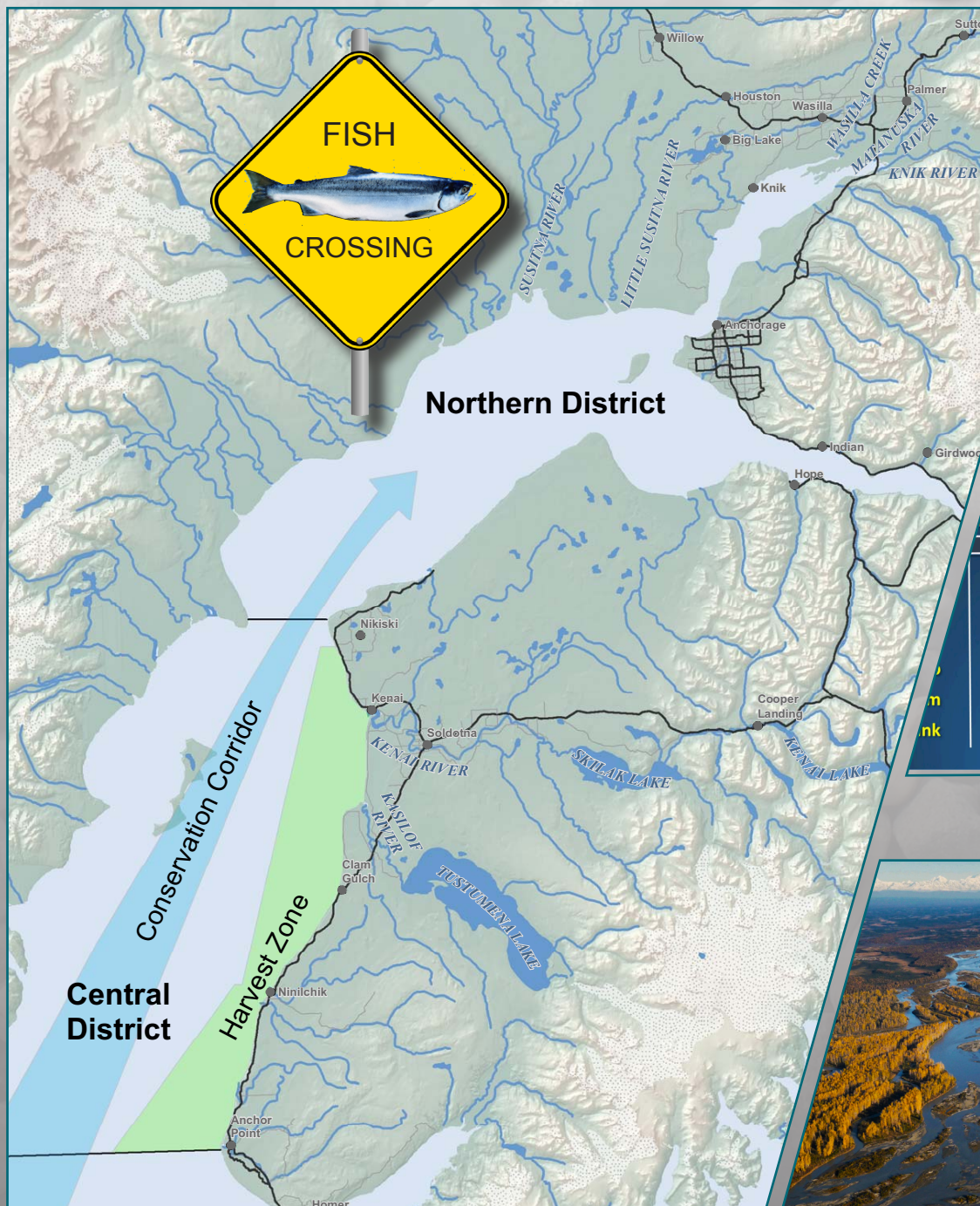
Ted Eischeid, Planning Division Staff

Dated

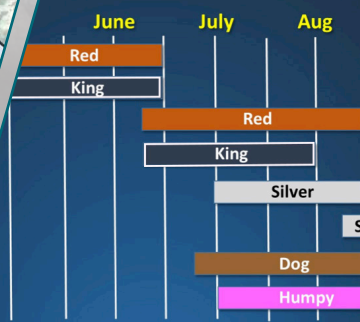
It Takes Fish To Make Fish

2020

The Corridor is Working – Refine It



Timing of Salmon in UCI



Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission

MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission



Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish & Wildlife Commission: Left to right: front, Assembly Member Howard Delo, Larry Engel, Amber Allen, Assembly Member, Tamara Boeve. Assembly Member, Dan Mayfield, Chair: Mike Wood, Andy Couch

Our Experience

- 8-member volunteer board, appointed by the Mayor, including two Borough Assembly Members
- 12 years of combined experience on the Alaska Board of Fisheries with three years as Chair, 70+ years of combined expertise as State biologists, 35+ years combined experience as fishing guides and nine years as a commercial setnetter
- Directed \$9.5 million in Borough, State, and Federal appropriations toward science, genetic research, and fish passage improvements

Our Goals

- Enhance the Conservation Corridor in the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan in July and early August (Proposals 129, 133) with mandatory area restrictions to regular fishing periods.
- Continue protection for identified Stocks of Concern – particularly Susitna Sockeye.
- Increase inriver returns of coho salmon to Northern Cook Inlet river systems by establishing an orderly transition from sockeye management to coho management.
- Adopt Chinook (King Salmon) management plans and strategies that address early run King salmon in the Northern Cook Inlet (Proposals 199, 215, 217, 219)
- Personal Use Fishery: Maintain or extend personal use fishing opportunity for Alaskan residents of the Northern Cook Inlet who choose to harvest salmon with net gear. (Proposal 234-238)
- Establish inriver or OEG (Optimal Escapement Goals) for salmon escapement in the Northern Cook Inlet

Recommendations

The Commission recommendations to the 2020 Board of Fisheries

1. Enhance the Conservation Corridor in the Central District drift gillnet fishery—it is working as designed

The Conservation Corridor provides strategic time and area closures in the center of Cook Inlet and expands use of terminal fishing areas based on abundance of the Kenai and Kasilof sockeye. Following corridor adoption, significant increases were observed in sockeye and coho salmon runs to the Mat-Su, local sport fisheries and escapements. The uptick in salmon numbers is part of what we, the Commission, were asking for when the 2014 Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted the current drift gillnet fishery management plan.

2. Continue to protect Stocks of Concern—particularly Susitna sockeye

Susitna sockeye are currently a Stock of Yield Concern. Continuing declines and chronic escapement failures also qualify this stock for listing as a stock of management and conservation concern. Susitna sockeye are tremendously diverse but inherently less productive than Kenai and Kasilof populations which drive Upper Cook Inlet commercial fisheries. Freshwater productivity of Susitna sockeye also appears to be declining. The combination of declined productivity and continuing high harvest rates are a recipe for extinction. Freshwater production problems are imperative for limiting exploitation, not an excuse for continued over fishing in the mixed stock commercial fishery.

3. Limit commercial drift gillnet fishing in August to avoid excessive coho harvest

Most of the commercial drift gillnet fishery is closed by regulation in August when less than 1% of the season's total sockeye harvest is caught on two consecutive fishery openers. This rule provides exhibility to extend the commercial fishing season when the sockeye run is late and signicant numbers continue to be available for harvest. The rule also ensures that commercial harvest of sport-priority coho and Kenai kings is limited after the sockeye run winds down. This closure rule, as adopted, was meant to be absolute except as otherwise provided under the commissioner's authority to manage to meet escapement goals as a first priority.

4. Continue to provide robust personal use opportunities where stocks permit

Over 25,000 to 30,000 households now participate in the UCI personal use fishery, harvesting approximately 325,000 or more sockeye salmon for the period 2013 to 2018, primarily from Kenai or Kasilof rivers. The majority of participation comes from residents of areas outside the Kenai Peninsula including the Mat-Su as other regional personal use opportunities are quite limited. The Commission supports maintaining and enhancing personal use fishery opportunities wherever possible. Commercial fishery limitations including closure "windows" are essential for delivering fish to the rivers when sockeye are running. The Commission also supports proposals to increase inriver goals for Kenai late-run sockeye for consistency with current inriver harvest levels.

**Matanuska Susitna Borough
Fish and Wildlife Commission**

**Alaska Board of Fisheries
After Action Report**

February 7 – February 17, 2020

*Submitted by
Mac Minard
Northwestern Natural Resource Consultants*

I. Meeting Outcome Goals

There were five Matanuska Susitna Borough Fish Wildlife Commission (MSBFWC) outcome goals for the 2020 Board of Fish Meeting:

- 1) Expand protections for northern bound salmon while affording commercial fisheries opportunity to harvest surplus sockeye salmon.**
 - a. Strengthen the Conservation Corridor in the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan in July and early August (proposals 129, 133)
 - b. Establish a 2% rule move applicable date to July 31 (Proposal 195)

- 2) Maintain protections for identified Stocks of Concern – particularly Susitna Sockeye**
 - a. Continue the use of terminal stock fishery management using the expanded harvest corridor (proposals 129, 133)
 - b. Raise in river goals in Kenai late run sockeye (proposal 88)

- 3) Increase in-river returns of coho salmon to MT/SU river systems by establishing an orderly transition from sockeye management to coho management.**
 - a. Establish an end date for Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery by use of the 2% rule and with no provision for continued commercial fishing in areas 3 and 4. (Proposals 133,195) and move the effective date to July 31.
 - b. Strengthen coho preamble in draft plan and late run Kenai River sockeye salmon management plans (Proposal 127)

- 4) Adopt Chinook (King Salmon) management plans and strategies that address early run King salmon in the Northern District and provide predictable and transparent management action (proposals 199, 214, 215, 217, 219)**

- 5) **Personal Use Fishery:** Create a personal use fishery in the Susitna River to extend personal use fishing opportunity for Alaskan residents of the Northern District who choose to harvest salmon with net gear. Proposal 234 (amended)

II. Preparations and Coordination

In the months prior to the Board of Fish meeting the Mat/Su Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission (MSBFWC) met frequently to develop and review regulatory proposals and to develop strategy for the upcoming meeting. Leadership provided by the Commission members which included very knowledgeable people and two former Board of Fisheries members made this effort very successful. Close coordination with Department staff and open discussions with Board of Fisheries members helped to inform the preparations by the MSBFWC.

The Mat Su Public Affairs office was called upon to retool the 2017 Fish Booklet for the 2020 meeting; changes included important sections describing differential productivities in the Mat Su and the Kenai drainages (pages 14 and 15) and updating and editing the conservation corridor and terminal harvest area discussions. Editorial support from commission members and continued refinement by staff resulted in a compelling work telling the Mat Su story in a highly effective and strategic manner.

Written Products and Social Media

- 1) A report titled *It Takes Fish to Make Fish 2020 The "Corridor" is working – Enhance It* developed as a supporting document for the Mat Su by staff and Stefan Hinman.

The graphics, maps and easy to use format made the material highly effective and was used extensively in preparing Board members and Commission members concerning the issues and priorities. This report tells a compelling story that established a level of understanding and credibility necessary to gain Board of Fish member's confidence. Public Affairs staff deserve a great deal of credit for their work. This booklet was distributed as part of the on-time comments and as PC 83.

- 2) Public Affairs created a strategic, compelling The half-page ad featured in the *Frontiersman* —“Fishzilla” by the Public Affairs office engaged disinterested readers and draw them to testify. That ad coupled with the web page story map <https://www.matsugov.us/bof> developed by Webmaster Jack Horner and GIS expert Kenny Kleewein can be credited with increasing the representation of the Mat Su to levels not seen before.
- 3) On social media, prior to the Board of Fisheries Meeting, Public Affairs staff posted an original post characterizing why residents should go and participate.

IX. Evaluation of Goals

The MSBFWC team went into the Board meeting with five clearly stated goals for the outcome of the meeting.

The following is an assessment of those goals.

1) **Expand protections for northern bound salmon while affording commercial fisheries opportunity to harvest surplus sockeye salmon.**

This goal was met fully. Passage of proposal MSBFWC proposal 133 (6 to 1) takes out one district wide commercial opening in July at middle tier and puts commercial drift fishermen in the expanded terminal harvest area for all of August as opposed to district wide coho fishery. Additionally, 133 eliminates drift gillnet fishing during the first week or two of August when the drift gillnet fishery is now restricted to the expanded terminal harvest area. Fishing may resume in this area (district 3) after the rest of the inlet is closed by the 1% rule.

Passage of Proposal 133 will keep the commercial drift fleet out of the conservation corridor and establishes a terminal fisheries management strategy that will provide immediate and significant protections for salmon destined to the Northern District.

- A subsequent vote brought forward in RC 112 to reconsider Proposal 133 failed 2 to 5.
- A request for emergency petition RC 192 filed the last hour of the last day of the meeting also failed 2 to 5.

In addition, MSBFWC proposal 195 amended (proposal 192 amended) the 1 percent rule becoming effective at July 31 instead of August 7th will have positive effects.

Additionally, and very significantly, was the Commissioners' clarification of how and when the Department will calculate the 1% rule; applied to any and all periods, regardless of where the fishery were permitted to take place. Action was passed 5 to 2.

Increasing the late-run sockeye goal as part of KRSA proposal 88, will also have positive benefits for Northern district stocks, in as much as it will necessarily reduce the need to aggressively commercially fish the sockeye run. Proposal 88 passed 5-2.

With the collective emphasis on terminal stock fisheries management for Kasilof and Kenai sockeye, it is fair to say that Northern bound salmon stocks now enjoy the most conservative set of regulations applied in decades.

2) **Maintain protections for identified Stocks of Concern – particularly Susitna Sockeye**

This goal was met. Following robust discussion of the status of stocks of concern in the Northern District and the conclusion that the yield sock of concern for Susitna Sockeye was no longer applicable, there was agreement that the Board would maintain a conservative strategy and avoid any significant increases in directed harvest. This position was leveraged to help with passage of 133 and the increases to late run sockeye goals in the Kenai river and was used to defeat numerous commercial fishing expansion proposals, therefore maintaining protections.

3) Increase in-river returns of coho salmon to MT/SU river systems by establishing an orderly transition from sockeye management to coho management.

This goal was met. Perhaps the most noticeable thing coming out of this meeting will be the increase in coho that will be returning to the Mat Su. Proposals 133 and 195 (amended in 192), in combination, will result in measurable improvements to the coho salmon return to the Mat Su. Clarify the use of the one-percent rule as part of the orderly transition of the sockeye management to coho management. It is our expectation that sport fisheries that have previously been restricted will see improvement and provide for increased opportunity. The Commission efforts are to be credited for the significant increase in commerce that will be realized by an improved level of sport fishing opportunity.

4) Adopt Chinook (King Salmon) management plans and strategies that address early run King salmon in the Northern District and provide predictable and transparent management action (proposals 199, 214, 215, 217, 219)

This goal was met. The approach we used to meet this goal was to work with department staff to produce alternative language in the form of RC 156, as proposal 217, a combined proposal that melded multiple proposals into a concise action that addressed Susitna River and Little Susitna river king salmon and establishing a king salmon OEG from 16,000 to 22,000 for the Yentna River, passed 7 - 0.

file:///C:/Users/MACMIN~1/AppData/Local/Temp/rc156_ADFG_Sub_Language_Proposals_215,217,219.pdf

5) Personal Use Fishery: Create a personal use fishery in the Susitna River to extend personal use fishing opportunity for Alaskan residents of the Northern District who choose to harvest salmon with net gear. Proposal 234 (amended)

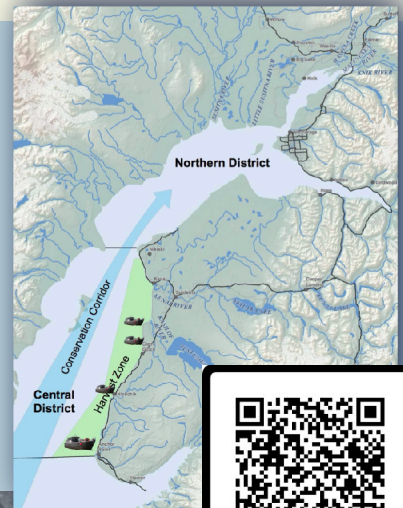
This goal was met fully. The MSBFWC took a lead role in developing and refining proposal 234 to create a viable yet limited personal use fishery as seen by RC 132
file:///C:/Users/MACMIN~1/AppData/Local/Temp/rc132_ADF&G_for_Payton_Substitute_language_prop_234.pdf



King and Silver Salmon are the economic drivers of Mat-Su sport fisheries

Direct spending on MSB sport fisheries fell from \$141 million in 2007 to \$57 million in 2017, a decrease of 59%

In 2014, a 7-0 vote at the Alaska State Board of Fisheries set in motion a sea of change in how the commercial fisheries are managed in Upper Cook Inlet under the Central Drift Gillnet Management Plan. Regulatory teeth were put in place that allow more northern bound fish to pass through a gauntlet of commercial fishing nets, into the Mat-Su Basin, where the shallow braided river channels and sloughs challenge even the toughest of returning salmon.



Fish & Wildlife Priorities



Enhance the Conservation Corridor in the Central District.

Increase State funding for fish weirs located in the MSB and increase genetic sampling to improve salmon management

Hold State Board of Fish meetings at a neutral site, such as Anchorage, rather than in the MSB or Kenai Peninsula Borough

Fully match Federal funds from license fees to maximize Federal dollars for Fish and Game

Continued improvements to the MSB fish passage culvert program.

Support collaboration between the State and Federal management to reduce bycatch.

Proposed BOF 24 FWC Goals for Consideration at 1/19/23

From Member AC:

**Utilizing regulations conservative enough to provide for established escapement goals, re-establish or rebuild reasonable common use coho and Chinook salmon harvest opportunities in Northern Cook Inlet freshwaters, more similar to harvest opportunities from 2000 -- 2009.

1. Provide protective / conservative management for former Stocks of Concern – particularly Susitna Sockeye and Northern Cook Inlet Chinook Salmon.
2. Increase inriver returns of coho salmon to Northern Cook Inlet streams by establishing an orderly transition from sockeye management to coho management.
3. Adopt Chinook (King Salmon) management plans and strategies that address early run king salmon in Northern Cook Inlet (Proposals 199, 215, 217, 219)
4. Personal Use Fishery: Maintain or extend personal use fishing opportunity for Alaskan residents in Northern Cook Inlet to harvest salmon with net gear. (Proposal 234-238)
5. Establish inriver or OEG (Optimal Escapement Goals) for salmon escapement in Northern Cook Inlet.

Proposed ADFG Game Season Summary Meeting Questions for Consideration at 1/19/23**Group A**

1. What are ADF&G's most recent Moose population / bull to cow / and calf to cow data for GMUs 14A, 14B, 16A, 16B, 13A?
 2. What year(s) was the most recent moose data collected from those same subunits?
 3. What is the moose population objective range for GMUs 14A, 14B, 16A, 16B, and 13A?
 4. After ADF&G's first moose browse survey (done several years ago) what is the follow up data on the condition of Mat-Su Valley moose browse?
 5. How will our recent heavy snowfall in the Mat-Su Valley affect the number of antlerless moose permits given out for GMU 14A, 14B, and 13A for the 2023 / 2024 hunting season?
-

Group B

1. I would like an update on moose harvests in units 13A, 13D, 14A, 14B, and 14C. I would like to know how many tags were sold, how many bulls were harvested, how many cows were harvested, and how many calves were harvested. I would like to know where and when ADFG performed surveys of moose populations, and the population figures for the last 5 years.
2. I would like a general overview of the results of harvests and populations for caribou in units 13 and 14
3. I would like a general overview of the harvests and populations for sheep in unit 13A
4. What is the state of habitat for wildlife? Are there areas that are now doing a better or worse job of supporting different species than in the past 20-50 years? If so, what appear to be the primary causes?
5. What issues keep ADFG wildlife up at night? What are they watching that we should be aware of?

From: [Theodore Eischeid](#)
To: [Maija DiSalvo \(Maija.DiSalvo@matsugov.us\)](#)
Bcc: [Andy Couch \(fishing@fish4salmon.com\)](#); [Howard Delo \(hodelo@mtaonline.net\)](#); [jessesumnerdistrict6@gmail.com](#); [Jim Sykes](#); [Kendra Zamzow](#); [Larry Engel \(larryengel@gci.net\)](#); [Mike Wood](#); [Mike Wood \(mollyhops@icloud.com\)](#); [Pete and Eileen Probasco](#); [Tim Hale - MSB Assembly \(TimHaleDistrict1@gmail.com\)](#)
Subject: RE: Cook Inlet Salmon
Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 1:41:00 PM

[This message sent BCC to FWC members]

Further insight on this issue from the Alaska Journal of Commerce, dated 12/27/22: [Alaska Journal | Council has 4 months to fix Cook Inlet salmon fishery management plan](#)

Ted

From: Theodore Eischeid
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2022 3:51 PM
To: Maija DiSalvo (Maija.DiSalvo@matsugov.us) <Maija.DiSalvo@matsugov.us>
Subject: FW: Cook Inlet Salmon

[This message sent BCC to FWC members]

Below is further detail on NPFMC action earlier in December on the Cook Inlet Salmon FMP action.

Best,

Ted

From: Nicole Watson - NOAA Affiliate <nicole.watson@noaa.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2022 12:35 PM
To: Theodore Eischeid <Ted.Eischeid@matsugov.us>
Cc: David Witherell - NOAA Affiliate <david.witherell@noaa.gov>; Diana Evans <diana.evans@noaa.gov>
Subject: Cook Inlet Salmon

[EXTERNAL EMAIL - CAUTION: Do not open unexpected attachments or links.]

Ted,

Thank you for following up regarding the Cook Inlet Salmon agenda item.

At the December meeting, the Council conducted its initial review of the Cook Inlet Salmon FMP Amendment analysis, which evaluates alternatives to manage salmon fishing in the Federal waters of upper Cook Inlet. The analysis describes and evaluates the impacts of the four management alternatives under consideration by the Council, noting that two of these are not viable based on court decisions. For the next version of the analysis, staff will provide additional details on Federal oversight and other operational details that would result from implementing Alternative 2 or 3. The Council elected not to select a preliminary preferred alternative at this time, and anticipates taking final action on this amendment at

the April 2023 Council meeting.

Additional information, including the initial review document and presentations, can be found in the eAgenda link by clicking [here](#), and scrolling to agenda item C3.

Feel free to reach out with any further questions or concerns.

Respectfully,
Nicole Watson

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Nicole M. Watson, PhD Candidate | Fishery Analyst

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North Pacific Fishery Management Council

907-271-2809

www.npfmc.org