

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission
JANUARY 8, 2026
REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:01pm

II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Present

Pete Probasco

Andy Couch

Gabe Kitter

Kendra Zamzow

Michael Bowles (left meeting at 5:48PM)

Marty Van Diest

Jim Sykes

Absent

Bill Gamble

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**AC – request to include hatchery plan up for comment – Chair added as
Item F under new business**

AC moves, GK seconds, agenda as amended approved

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 13, 2025 (packet pg. 4)

AC moves, GK seconds, no objections, minutes are approved

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*three minutes per person*)

Rep Kevin McCabe

Ben Americus

Stephen Braund

Margaret Stern

Sue Mauger

Sam Oslund
Bill Stoltze
Chennery Fife

VII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Staff Report

1. Post-Salmon Symposium Opportunities for Engagement – Susitna River Watershed Plan, Mat-Su Salmon Habitat Partnership Strategic Plan Update
2. BLM Preliminary EA – authorize ROW for construction vehicles on existing Routes in Knik River SRMA - EA Glacier View Access
3. Availability of ADF&G for Game Summary Meeting – April 9 Game Mtg.
4. Upcoming State & Federal Meetings
 - Jan 22, 2026, 9:00am, Wrangell - AK Board of Game work session
 - Feb 2-11, 8:00am -5:00pm, Anchorage – NPFMC Meetings
 - Feb 2-4 – NPFMC Scientific and Statistical Committee
 - Feb 2-7 – NPFMC Advisory Panel
 - Feb 5-11 – NPFMC Council Meeting

B. Chair's Report

1. Response to Mayor's Letter from Governor's Office
Copy of letter (pg. 9)

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ### A. Board of Fisheries 2026 March Meeting Strategy
- BOF Proposal 186 (pg. 11)

AC moves for the FWC to participate in the BOF meeting addressing BOF Proposal 186, GK second.

No objection, motion passed.

Vincent-Lang & Couch discussion summary (pg. 13)
Mac Minard interest email (pg. 15)
Mac Minard proposal (pg. 16)

AC moves to hire Mac Minard for consulting services for the 2026 Statewide BOF meeting as outlined in the proposal, GK seconds. No objections, motion passes

AC moves to accept offer from KRSA to split the cost of the conference room with KRSA, GK seconds.

KZ objects

Motion passes 5-1

Yes – AC, GK, MB, PP, MVD

No – KZ

Schedule special meetings every 2 weeks starting on Jan 29 (Andy will be chair)

***All FWC decide how you want to be involved in the meeting**

B. Prep for 2026-27 Board of Fisheries Cycle – Goals, Tasks, Budget

Proposal deadline announcement – April 10, 2026 (pg. 22)

Strategy document (pg. 25)

AAR from 2024 cycle (pg. 28)

If FWC commissioner has ideas, draft the proposal and bring them forward at our special meetings, or we can also collectively work on proposals at our special meetings

C. Waterbody Setback Ordinance Staff Update and Discussion

D. Scheduling ADF&G Summary Meetings

E. Deshka Watershed Land Classification Resolution (RS 25-02)

Gamble-Metzger Email (pg. 63)

GK moves to have Bill Gamble bring forward the resolution to the Assembly

No objection, motion passes

To-do – follow up with BG to get on the assembly agenda

F. Other Follow-Up from Task List

- Gabe Kitter – Resource Development Council Email (pg. 66)

End of August, Gabe will reach back out to RDC to participate

- Jim Sykes – North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (pg. 67)

Keep an eye out for SAFE document

Add to Jan 29 Agenda - Consider how we want to proceed for participation at the NPFMC meeting at the Jan 29 meeting.

- MSB – Subcommittee/Working Group Rules

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Mayor's Offer for Follow-Up with Governor
Mayor email to Paul (pg. 69)

Gabe will write first draft for the Jan 29 meeting agenda.

**KZ moves to extend meeting to 6:15, AC seconds
No objections, motion passes.**

- B. Letter or Resolution supporting HB 203 / SB 161 (request from Rep. McCabe) – “An Act relating to the use of certain trawl or dredge fishing gear in state water; and providing for an effective date.”
HB 203 (pg. 71)

**MB moves to have the FWC develop a letter or resolution of support, AC seconds
No objections, motion passes**

Kendra will take the lead on drafting a letter.

**Ask Mayor and/or Assembly if we want to co-sign the letter
MB is willing to bring forward a resolution for the Assembly**

- C. Changing Pike from Sport Fishery to Commercial Fishery (introduced by Mayor)
(Establish a pick commercial fishery)

- D. Inviting presenters from the Salmon Symposium – Kendra
(Ex. ADF&G Fish Pathologist sharing info on the Pacific Salmon Health Monitoring Initiative), Also Erin Larson – Habitat Web Mapper

FWC will consider presentations in May or beyond

- E. 2026 FWC Meeting Calendar and Officers

Schedule meetings for the second Thursday every month through May with a start time of 4:00pm

- F. Announcement of hatchery plan – comments are due January 31

GK moves to extend meeting by 5 minutes, AC seconds, no objections, motion approved

X. MEMBER COMMENTS (10 minutes)

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE: January 29, 4:00-6:00 PM

XII. ADJOURNMENT

AC moves to adjourn, GK second, no objections meeting adjourned at 6:17pm



Peter Probasco, FWC Chair

3/12/26
Date



Paul Clark, MSB Long Range Planner

3/12/26
Date

