

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

MSB Fish and Wildlife

Commission

MAY 14, 2026, REGULAR MEETING 4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order 3:59 pm

II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Present

Pete Probasco

Andy Couch

Gabe Kitter

Terry Gorlick

Michael Bowles

Marty Van Diest

Kendra Zamzow

Jim Sykes

Absent

Bill Gamble

Presenters

Jayde Ferguson (ADF&G Fish Pathologist)

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Marty Van Diest requested a discussion about the Nelchina Caribou Herd, as item D in New Business.

Paul Clark requested discussion of reducing Commission to seven voting members plus one ex officio member, as item E in new business.

Andy Couch requested to add an item about setting up a field trip for Board of Fisheries members this summer.

Terry Gorlick motioned to approve amended agenda, Andy Couch seconded, no objections, agenda approved, as amended.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 26, 2026

Andy Couch moved to approve minutes, Gabe Kitter seconded, no objections, minutes approved

B. April 9, 2026

Paul Clark identified one correction needed to the minutes

Andy Couch motioned to approve minutes as corrected, Terry Gorlick seconded, no objections, corrected minutes approved

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

Stephen Braund – Northern District Set-netters Association

Samantha Oslund – ADF&G Northern Cook Inlet Area Manager

Neil Dewitt – Interested in fish topic

Oliver Querin - ADF&G Northern Cook Inlet Assistant Area Manager

Brennan Watson - ADF&G, Division of Sport Fish

Parker Bradley - ADF&G Biologist

VII. STAFF /AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Staff Report

1. ADF&G 2026 Escapement Goals

Received ADF&G 2026 Escapement Goals report; no changes for Mat-Su goals

2. Summary of April 21 Assembly Presentation

3. Calendar with Key Activities

B. Chair's Report

Pete Probasco received LNG public engagement materials; Paul Clark to scan and share with FWC

C. ADF&G Fish Pathology Program

Jayde Ferguson presented ADF&G Fish Pathology Program regarding fish disease monitoring, diagnostics, hatchery oversight, and recent fish mortality

D. MSB Fish Passage & Barriers Projects

Mike Campfield could not attend the meeting. Parker Bradley (ADF&G) substituted. Discussed eDNA results in local lakes and streams, pike barriers, fish passage concerns, and invasive northern pike management efforts.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Prep for 2027 Board of Fisheries Cycle

1. Communications Strategy

FWC members will individually provide Jonah with feedback on the draft

2. It Takes Fish to Make Fish Update

Andy Couch and Gabe Kitter tasked as primary contacts; Jim Sykes as backup

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Letter of Opposition for HB 321

Terry Gorlick moved to extend meeting to 6:15pm, Marty Van Diest seconded, no objections, meeting extended by 15 minutes.

Terry moved to send the letter of opposition as written; Marty Van Diest seconded.

Terry Gorlick moved to amend the letter to add that it was based on legislation as written today, and we reserve the right to modify our letter if the legislation is changed.

**Yes - Pete, Andy, Gabe, Terry
No – Kendra, Mike, Marty**

Motion to amend the letter passes 4-3.

Vote on approving the HB 321 letter of opposition as amended

**Yes – Pete, Andy, Gabe, Mike, Marty, Terry
No – Kendra**

Motion passes 6-1.

B. Pike Mitigation Resolution Approval

Andy Couch moved to approve resolution as written, Terry seconded, no objections, motion passed unanimously.

C. Schedule Remaining 2026 Meetings

FWC will meet on September 29, October 8, November 12, and December 10, with all meetings beginning at 4:00pm

D. Nelchina Herd discussion (added agenda item).

Paul will contact Heidi Hatcher (ADF&G Biologist) to schedule a presentation for the September 29 meeting.

E. Proposal to reduce the FWC to seven voting members by eliminating one Assembly seat on the FWC (added agenda item).

FWC is open to discussing the change and will revisit the topic in September for further discussion.

Terry Gorlick moved to extend meeting by 10 minutes, Gabe Kitter

seconded, no objection, meeting extended to 6:25pm.

F. Andy proposed to organize a field trip for Board of Fisheries members on or before July 15 on the Susitna River

Kendra moved to approve Andy coordinating a field trip for Board of Fisheries members, Gabe seconded, no objections, motion passed.

Once date is established, Paul will provide public notice of a possible quorum.

Andy will send a letter to the BOF on the FWC letterhead.

X. MEMBER COMMENTS (10 Minutes)

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE: **September 29, 2026**

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Terry Gorlick moved to adjourn, Kendra Zamzow seconded, no objections, meeting adjourned at 6:25pm



Peter Probasco, FWC Chair

Sept. 29, 2026
Date



Paul Clark, MSB Staff

SEP 29, 2026
Date