



**Alaska Board of Fisheries
WORK SESSION
October 12-13, 2023
Egan Convention and Civic Center, Anchorage**

Preliminary Actions Taken

- **Election of Officers:**

The board elected John Wood as Chair and Tom Carpenter as Vice-chair

- **Agenda Change Requests (ACRs):**

- F** **ACR 1** Require set gillnet anchors and buoys to be removed from the water when not actively being fished (5 AAC 39.107) (Vote: 0-7)
- F** **ACR 2** Reduce fishing time and repeal chum salmon harvest triggers in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 09.365). (Vote: 1-6)
- F** **ACR 3** Reduce commercial salmon seine depth in the Southwestern and Unimak Districts of Registration Area M (5 AAC 09.332). (Vote: 1-6)
- F** **ACR 4** Repeal vessel specifications and operations that define Bristol Bay drift gillnet vessel length (5 AAC 06.341). (Vote: 0-7)
- F** **ACR 5** Redefine Bristol Bay commercial salmon vessel specifications and operations (5 AAC 06.341). (Vote: 0-7)
- F** **ACR 6** Increase maximum size of Bristol Bay drift gillnet vessel anchor rollers (5 AAC 06.341). (Vote: 0-7)
- F** **ACR 7** Increase maximum gillnet mesh size in the Yukon Area commercial salmon fishery (5 AAC 05.331). (Vote: 2-5)
- F** **ACR 8** Restrict Copper River District commercial salmon fishing opportunity until a specified level of salmon sonar passage at Miles Lake has been achieved (5 AAC 24.XXX). (Vote: 0-7)
- C** **ACR 9** Repeal the no bait regulation and allow the use of non-roe bait for salmon, other than king salmon (5 AAC 67.022). (Vote: 7-0; scheduled for the Nov/Dec 2023, Lower Cook Inlet Finfish meeting)

- F** **ACR 10** Provide guidance for specific king salmon sport fishery management actions while Nushagak River king salmon are a stock of concern (5 AAC 06.391). (Vote: 0-7)
- C** **ACR 11** Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to align with new methods to set catch limits adopted by the Pacific Salmon Commission (5 AAC 47.055). (Vote: 7-0; scheduled for the Nov/Dec 2023, Lower Cook Inlet Finfish meeting)
- C** **ACR 12** Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to align with changes adopted by the Pacific Salmon Commission to maintain the troll and sport fishery allocations (5 AAC 47.055). (Vote: 6-1; scheduled for the Nov/Dec 2023, Lower Cook Inlet Finfish meeting)
- C** **ACR 13** Manage the SEAK king salmon sport fishery to not exceed the annual sport fishery harvest allocation (5 AAC 47.055). (Vote: 6-1; scheduled for the Nov/Dec 2023, Lower Cook Inlet Finfish meeting)

Note: "C" means motion carried; "F" means motion failed.

- **Stock of Concern Designations:**

The board designated Mikfik Lake sockeye salmon as a Stock of Management Concern. An Action Plan will be considered at the Lower Cook Inlet Finfish meeting (per 5 AAC 39.222).

The board designated Kenai River Late-run king salmon as a Stock of Management Concern. An Action Plan will be considered at the Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting (per 5 AAC 39.222)

- **Emergency Petition:**

The board received an emergency petition from the department regarding rockfish bycatch in commercial groundfish fisheries. The board adopted emergency regulations (in effect for up to 120 days in duration) to delegate statewide authority to the department to close commercial fishing with specific gear types in areas of high rockfish bycatch.

- **2025/2026 Tentative Board Meeting Dates and Locations:**

Meeting Topic	2025/2026		Location
	Proposed	Backup	
Hatchery Committee	Oct 27, 2025	Oct 13, 2025	Anchorage
Work Session	Oct 28-29, 2025	Oct 14-15, 2025	Anchorage
AK Pen/A.I./Bering Sea/Chignik Areas Pacific Cod	Oct 30-31, 2025	Oct 16-17, 2025	Anchorage
AYK Finfish	Dec 2-6, 2025	Nov 18-22, 2025	Fairbanks
Bristol Bay Finfish	Jan 13-17, 2026	Jan 27-31, 2026	Anchorage
AK Pen/AI Finfish	Feb 18-24, 2026	Feb 11-17, 2026	Anchorage
Statewide Finfish	Mar 17-20, 2026	Mar 24-27, 2026	Anchorage

- **2023/2024 Meeting Schedule**

The board reduced the duration of the Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting by one day (from 13 to 12 days). The amended meeting dates are February 23–March 6, 2024.