
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Special Meeting: Supplemental Proposals 189-192

Webconference | May 1, 2026

On-Time Advisory Committee Comments

Anchorage AC..... AC1

Bethel AC AC2

Kenai/Soldotna AC AC3

Mid-Lower Yukon AC..... AC4

Nushagak AC AC5

Tyonek AC AC6

Anchorage Advisory Committee
Tuesday, April 7th, 2026
William Jack Hernandez Hatchery

- I. Call to Order: 6:17pm by Kevin Taylor
 II. Roll Call

No	First Name	Last Name	Present/ Excused/ Unexcused
1	Kevin	Taylor	Present
2	Matt	Moore	Present
3	Nicole	Schmitt	Present
4	Bryce	Eckroth	Present
5	Paul	Warta	Present
6	Christina	Ahlstrom	Present
7	Ernie	Weiss	Present
8	Katya	Karankevich	Excused
9	Kneeland	Taylor	Present
10	J R	Gates	Present
11	Michelle	Bittner	Excused
12	Ed (Harold)	Horton	Excused
13	Scott	Crowther	Present
14	Tom	Vania	Present
15	Lynette	Moreno Hinz	Present
16	Matthew	Stone	Present
17	Grace	Kirkey	Unexcused

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brittney Blaine-Roth, Leila
- IV. Guests Present: See election sign-in
- V. Approval of Agenda: Approved
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved
- VII. Annual Elections
- a. General Elections for 5 expiring seats and 2 alternates:
 - i. Matt Moore
 - ii. Nicole Schmitt

- iii. Ernie Weiss
- iv. JR Gates
- v. Kneeland Taylor
- vi. Alternate: Matt Stone
- vii. Alternate: Grace Kirkey

Nominees for AC election: Ernie Weiss, Neil DeWitt, Matt Stone, JR Gates, Kneeland Taylor, Nicole Schmitt, Dustin Slinker, Frank Cahill, Matt Moore.

Elections were held by paper ballot and counted by Leila, 106 people voted. Top 5 nominees elected to seats: Ernie Weiss, Matt Stone, JR Gates, Nicole Schmitt, and Matt Moore.

Motion to have alternates be appointed to the nominees with the next highest votes, seconded. Kneeland Taylor and Frank Cahill received the next highest votes, elected to serve one-year terms as alternates.

- b. Potential Officer Elections: N/A- Nicole Schmitt and Matt Moore were re-elected and will maintain their positions of Secretary and Chair of Game Sub-committee, respectively.

VIII. Public Comment: None.

IX. Reports

a. Others

- i. Board of Fisheries Statewide Finfish Report: Ernie- Deferred all trawl proposals, will take up with joint protocol, some hatchery proposals failed and others TNA; adopted mostly ADFG housekeeping proposals, 186 with RC161 Cook Inlet passed 4-2; raised drifter quota from 1% to 3%; announced special meeting to take up Board-generated proposals; AC testifier had one question from BOF on transporter issue. Follow up on Area M meeting- ethics issue RC has evolved into a lawsuit, filed a few days ago; filed temporary injunction to try getting resolved before the fishing season.
- ii. Board of Game Southcentral Region Report: Matt- Board voted with AC recommendations in ~20 proposals; Dall's sheep closure/modification proposals on Kenai failed; Resident/Non-Resident splits varied, some passed. Members had some questions about FLIR proposals on Kodiak.

- b. Chair's report: Deferred to Nicole, who shared a Cook Inlet Fisheries report with AC members and public still present.

- c. ADF&G – None.
- X. New Business
- a. Potential Advisory Committee Proposals for Board of Fisheries Cook Inlet/Board of Game Interior/Arctic cycle
 - i. Board of Fisheries proposals due April 10th, 2026
 - 1. North District Closed Waters Proposal (Tom Vania, please see separate document): **11 support carrying the proposal as an AC, 2 abstain.** Tom will submit on behalf of the AC.
 - ii. Board of Game proposals due May 1st, 2026. No proposals AC needs to carry in the next cycle. AC may want to comment on proposals published for the special meeting called for BOG in July. AC does not have meeting planned during summer 2026.
 - b. Board of Fisheries board-generated proposal for special session:
 - i. Special session currently scheduled for May 1st, pending when legal notice is released
 - ii. Proposals 190 and 191: **AC TNA because it is outside of our area.**
 - iii. Proposal for Beach Seining in Upper Cook Inlet: Proposal 192
 - 1. AC discussion and comment to submit to special session (Please see separate document): Board-generated proposal under the action plan, so long as it is a stock of concern this would be the management change, if it is not a stock of concern fishery would go back. If BOF approves this in May, then moves into CFEC’s court to make sein gear-type legal under this regulation. Our understanding that this proposal would make it beach-seining only, set gillnet wouldn’t be an option. Not every beach is practicable for beach seining and the operation is very expensive. AC generally opposes Board-generated proposals especially since Cook Inlet will be taken up next year. Recommend putting this in the Cook Inlet proposals next year where setnetters who are impacted can review and testify. **AC opposed the proposal by vote of 0-13.**
 - iv. Proposal for Changing Traditional Knowledge Report policy: Proposal 189
 - 1. AC discussion and comment to submit to special session (Please see separate document): BOF introduced Traditional Knowledge testimony (10 minutes) and this proposal seeks to define “Traditional Knowledge” vs “Local Knowledge” to clarify who is eligible for those 10 minute testimony slots. Policy for Traditional Knowledge is codified. AC members discussed their perspectives on the importance of Traditional Knowledge and how it fits with BOF processes. AC is generally opposed to Board-generating proposals and ACRs; don’t know that anyone (including rural and

Tribal councils) has had the opportunity to have a good committee discussion. We would strongly prefer that this goes through the normal proposal process. **Opposed 1-12. Members felt strongly that AC notes reflect that AC strongly supports traditional knowledge in this process, but does not generally support Board-generated proposals and does not have the time or community input to determine if the proposed definitions are the best for this process.**

- c. Other Fish and Game Business as Needed
 - i. Some Board of Game members were interested in being able to listen-in to Anchorage AC meetings. AC members generally support, but concerns were raised about the room being difficult hear in hybrid meeting.

- XI. Set next meeting date: Special Board of Game meeting will be in Fairbanks at the end of July. Matt Moore will be in touch once proposals are published to determine our engagement.

See you next season! Potential start of season date: October 13th, but up for discussion and will announce closer to date.

- XII. Other: None.

- XIII. Adjourn: Moved.

- XIV. Adjournment: 8:07pm

Minutes Recorded By: Nicole Schmitt
Minutes Approved By: Kevin Taylor
Date: 04/10/2026

Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Minutes For April 20, 2026

Roll Call

Name	Present	Teleconference	Absent
Sam Hancock	X		
Michael Glore	X		
David Humphrey			X
Lucinda Alexie	X		
Jon La Valle	X		
Jeremy Brink			X
Seth Madole			X
Travis Burks	X		
Cole Nance			X
Avery Hoffman			X
Alissa Rogers			X
Alternate Caleb Miller	X- Appointed this Evening		

Number Needed for Quorum:6

1. **Welcome**- Meeting begin with Chair (Mike Glore) appointing Caleb Miller as Alternate for tonight. In-order to have Quorum. With a plan for elections next meeting.
2. **Invocation**
3. Approval of Agenda:
 - a. Motion to approve by Burks and seconded by Hancock. Approved unanimously.
4. Previous Minutes for April 8th, 2026
 - a. Motion to approve by Hancock and seconded by La Valle. Approved unanimously
- Reports-
 - b. Chair- No Chair Report
 - c. Fish and Game Biology- Todd. Presented Mulchatna Caribou increased about 24% with predator control in the west. Plan is to do Predator control again this spring. Another court case has been file to prevent Predator Control. If that is the case Fish and Game will pivot to collar bears. Preliminary finding is good for calf survival this winter. Total heard is about 16,500
5. Public Comment
 - a. No Public Comments
6. Old Business
 - a. No Old Business
7. New Business
 - a. Discussion of Remaining Proposals to submit
 - i. Mulchatna Caribou Moratorium-

Minutes Recorded By: Sam Hancock
Minutes Approved: Michael Glore

Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Minutes For April 20, 2026

1. La Valle motion for support seconded by Burks. Discussion with Tod's presentation. A Hunt may take place with around 18,000 caribou. This may be a Teir 2 hunt. Approved Unanimously.
- b. Bear Baiting Proposal Unit 18
 - i. La Valle motion for support and second by Hancock- Discussion support Subsistence users' time in the field. To increase opportunity for Harvest potential. Approved Unanimously
- c. 40 HP Proposal
 - i. La Valle motion for support and seconded by Burks. No Discussion needed as this was discussed at length in previous meetings. Approved unanimously.
- d. Unit 19 Bear Baiting Proposal
 - i. La Valle motion for support and seconded by Burks. This proposal would put less stress on subsistence users traveling at distance. Subsistence user will not have to break down a Bear stand just to put it back up. Will save subsistence user undue economic stress. Approved Unanimously.
- e. Unit 19 RM650
 - i. La Valle motioned to support and seconded by Hancock. This proposal will cut down economic stressors on permit holders. Allowing online access to this permit will ease economic strain for lower income people of the Delta. Approved Unanimously.
- f. Board of fisheries Special Meeting Discussion
 - i. Adopt a Policy on Traditional Knowledge into regulation
 1. Leila Williams presented. Distinguishing between Tradional and Local knowledge. Discussion was at length. Traditional knowledge ought to be heard through the local AC. By following this definition and codifying into regulation local ACs' will be silenced. This proposal will allow a separate working group to undermine the local AC. Local ACs' possess both Traditional and local knowledge. Motion made by Burks and seconded by La Valle. Opposed Unanimously.
 - ii. Adopt a Yukon River King Salmon Stock of Concern Management Plan into regulation.
 1. No action taken- Approved Unanimously.
8. Other Business
 - a. AC proposals to be submitted Online by author. Email copy to Savannah.
9. Adjourned- @19:52

Committee	Kenai/Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Document	Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date	April 15, 2026
Prepared By	Scott Daletas, Secretary

Call to Order	Adjournment	Proposal 192 Vote	Proposal 189 Vote
6:04 p.m.	8:26 p.m.	0-13, failed	5-1-7, passed

Call to Order

Chair Monte Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Elections

Elections were conducted for Advisory Committee seats. Results were as follows:

Seat	Result
Sport Fish Guide	Monte Roberts; Greg Springer
At Large	Al Belknap; Jacob Daniels
At Large Alternate	Eric Arneson; Matt Crow
Trapping	Scott Miller
Commercial Fishing Alternate	James McGrath
Personal Use	Jeremy Malloy
Commercial Fishing Seat	The commercial fishing seat was the only contested seat. The vote resulted in a tie and was decided by coin flip. John Manley won the coin flip for the commercial seat.

Proposal 192

Lucas from the Department of Fish and Game presented Proposal 192, a board generated proposal related to the Kenai River Late Run Stock of Concern Management Plan. As discussed, the proposal would apply from June 20 through July 31 when the run is greater than 14,250 and would change the gear type from set nets to beach seines. Beach seines would be required to be used from shore and from a leased site. Two 12 hour fishing periods per week would be permitted. A dip net could not be used within 600 feet of a beach seine.

James McGrath stated that, as a set netter, he did not agree with the process surrounding the board generated proposal. He said he would have attended had he known the proposal was going to be discussed. He expressed concern that the proposal would displace many set netters who do

not have beach sites and that it was being advanced without a proper public process. He also noted that when similar fishing occurred under a commissioner's permit, strict reporting requirements were in place, and he was concerned the current proposal did not appear to include comparable reporting or data collection. James additionally asked what research has fish and game received or scientific data from last board of fish when the proposal failed to now to make the board want to bring this up out of cycle, what new scientific data have the received, because many of them opposed this due to lack of research, for example they say they release a king but have no tracking on the king or silver if it actually makes it to the Kenai River the list goes on and on. James also asked what new research, analysis, or scientific data the department has received since the last Board of Fisheries meeting when the proposal Failed, that now justifies bringing this issue forward out of cycle. He noted that a major reason for prior opposition was the lack of supporting research, including the absence of tracking data showing whether released king or coho salmon actually survive and return to the Kenai River.

Dyer VanDevere as a drift fisherman stated his opposition to the proposal based primarily on the out of cycle process. He expressed concern that the Board of Fisheries was proceeding without adequate public review and noted the proposal was brought forward late in the statewide meeting without public testimony. He further stated that he had heard the board might revise the language again, which in his view would further undermine the public process.

Andrew Carmichael stated he is for beach seining, but not for how this proposal is written and how it was brought up.

Monte Roberts also spoke against the process used to bring the proposal forward and expressed frustration that the Board of Fisheries was not recognizing the position previously taken by the Advisory Committee.

Action on Proposal 192: Proposal 192 failed unanimously, 0 in favor and 13 opposed.

Proposal 189

Proposal 189 regarding traditional knowledge was then considered.

Members commented that the proposal was lengthy and that more time was needed to fully review and digest it. Concern was also expressed that portions of the language were too vague and could be subject to manipulation.

Action on Proposal 189: Proposal 189 passed, 5 in favor, 1 opposed, and 7 abstentions.

Board of Fish Statewide Meeting Report

Monte Roberts and Dyer VanDevere provided an overview of the recent statewide Board of Fisheries meeting.

Monte Roberts reported that the board opposed party fishing, maintained the hook and hand definition, and materially changed Proposal 186, relating to the drift plan, after Committee of the Whole without adequate public review.

Dyer VanDevere stated that RC 161 was introduced at approximately 10:30 a.m. on Friday before Saturday adjournment with significantly revised language and no meaningful opportunity for public

comment. He expressed strong concern regarding the process and described the handling of the proposal changes as deeply problematic.

Colton Lipka explained new statewide carcass retention requirements for rockfish, lingcod, and king salmon. Skin must be retained for species identification and the carcass must be retained for length measurement until the vessel is docked or shore fishing has concluded.

Monty Roberts also expressed frustration that the Advisory Committee had voted 11 to 0 against Proposal 186, but the Board of Fisheries ultimately passed an amended version, which he said made the AC process feel less meaningful.

Committee members discussed broader concerns regarding Board of Fisheries process and last minute amendments that were not subject to meaningful public review. Board Members were also invited to listen to future Advisory Committee meetings by Zoom, AC committee members may participate by Zoom with prior authorization from the Chair.

Other Business

Minutes will be distributed by email. Members will have 48 hours to submit any corrections or requested changes.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Prepared by:

Scott Daletas, Secretary

Approved by:

Monte Roberts, Chair

Date: 04/28/2026

Mid-Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, April 13th, Beginning at 10:00 AM, 2026

Draft Minutes

Call to order: *Chair, Bill Alstrom @ 10:47*

	<u>Mountain Village</u> Christopher Redfox Alt. Joel Beans	<u>Andreafski</u> William Alstrom Alt. George Beans	<u>Marshall</u>	<u>Pilot Station</u>
Present		Bill Alstrom & George Beans		
By Teleconference	Christopher Redfox			
Absent				
Abs/Excused				
	<u>Pitka's Point</u> Alternate: Ivy Lamont	<u>Russian Mission</u> Basil Larson Alt. Wassily Alexie	<u>St. Mary's</u> Peter Tyson Alt. Francis Thompson	
Present	Ivy Lamont			
By Teleconference		Basil Larson	Francis Thompson	
Absent				
Abs/Excused				

- I. Roll Call
 - a. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 3; 6 members present
- II. Welcome and Introductions:
 - a. ADFG: Savannah Hollingworth, Boards Support; Deena Jallen and Matt Olsen, DCF; Patrick Jones, DWC
 - b. Other Agency Staff: Tonia Jimmy, James Akerelrea, Naomi Drohl, and Ivalo Blanchett from Yukon Kuskokwim Regional Tribal Government
 - c. Members of the public: Marilyn Sipry, Darryl Sipry
- III. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Fran, 2nd Ivy. Unanimous
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: November 13, 2025. Motion made by George, 2nd by Francis. Unanimous
- V. Reports
 - a. Chair's report – Welcomes new members and new faces
 - b. ADF&G
 - i. Wildlife Reports – Pat Jones provided a wildlife report, noting that the moose population on the Yukon has stabilized at around 21,000, which is above the desired range of 12,000-15,000 for long-term sustainability. He explained that while harvest numbers have increased post-COVID, more harvesting is needed to control the population, and winter mortality primarily affects calves rather than adults.
 1. Grant Kopplin, public, questions the potential impact of harsh winters on the moose population.

2. Bill and Basil reported that deep snow and high water have affected moose behavior, with more animals gathering near towns and islands being eroded, reducing available food sources. They noted increased predation by wolves and bears, and discussed challenges for hunting and fishing activities. The group also discussed the need to relax restrictions on 4-inch nets to help communities subsist on available fish during the salmon shortage.

ii. Fisheries Update

1. Deena Jallen from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game presented summer season outlooks, reporting low expected returns of Chinook salmon (64,000 fish) and summer chum salmon (350,000 fish), likely resulting in fishing closures. Matt Olson discussed fall season outlooks, forecasting 311,000 fall chum salmon, barely above the drainage-wide escapement goal, with directed subsistence fishing unlikely to open. The meeting also covered recent Board of Fisheries decisions to list Yukon Chinook and fall chum salmon as stocks of management concern, with action plans to be discussed in a special online-only Board meeting on May 1st.
2. Deena Jallen-ADFG explained two proposals (190 and 191) generated by the Board of Fisheries and will be deliberated May 1st include requirements for fish-friendly fish wheel construction, with specific details about mesh to improve fish survival. Matt presented details on Proposal 191 for fall chum, noting that it would move up the start date to July 13th and require meeting the lower end of the escapement goal (300,000-600,000 fish) for five consecutive years to delist from management concern.
3. The group discussed concerns about low salmon runs and the impact of bycatch regulations on in-river subsistence fishing, with participants expressing frustration about fishing restrictions and the need for more ocean-based research on salmon mortality. Actions made by the North Pacific Management Council regarding trawling and by the Board of Fisheries limiting fishing in Area M were discussed. Another subject discussed is how the shortage of fish has impacted other wildlife populations and a shift in protein sources for the local people.
4. Brian Stephanov comments about the effect the low salmon returns, and colonialism has had on the area. While people come to do research, they return to their homes with cheap groceries available, while here prices are very high. Meanwhile managers of the past pitted communities against each other. Brian gives a brief history and compares rural and poor areas with those in the city, emphasizing how those who depend on the resource the most also carry the burden of conservation.
5. Bill Alstrom speaks about the changes that he has seen in his lifetime.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Special Meeting Proposals May 1, 2026 Webconference			
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>			
189	Adopt a policy on Traditional Knowledge into regulation.		
Support	Unanimous		Francis made a motion to support, Ivy 2 nd . The group discussed and unanimously approved a proposal to codify traditional knowledge into the Board of Fisheries regulatory process. Fran and Ivy moved to support the traditional knowledge proposal, Fran provided rationale about the historical importance of including traditional knowledge in fisheries management. Members felt this should have been a long time ago. One member said “We’ve been fighting for this forever and ever.” It was the intentions and requested by our predecessors to include Traditional Knowledge as a deciding factor. Traditional knowledge is something that’s not written down and mostly from the user group.

VI. Public Comment

- a. Proposal Presentations/Introductions: Potential proposals were presented to the group by Yukon Kuskokwim Regional Tribal Government (YKRTG), Grant Kopplin, and Melvin Paukan.
- b. The Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Tribal Government presented a proposal with five recommendations to the Board of Game, including establishing a non-resident draw permit system and creating a controlled use area in the Andrafski Wilderness. The tribal government also discussed plans to submit proposals to compress non-resident hunting seasons, require full field removal of meat, and reduce bag limits, with the goal of applying similar protections to Unit 18 as used in Unit 21E.
- c. Grant Kopplin presented a proposal to create a new Lower Yukon River management area to address increasing user conflicts with out-of-state hunters, proposing a cap of 120 non-resident permits for bull moose hunting in September. The discussion ended with Fran asking questions about the proposed management structure and non-resident hunting opportunities in different zones. The Mid-Lower Yukon AC voted Unanimously to support Grant’s proposal.
- d. See discussion regarding other proposal presentations and adoption below.

VII. Old Business – none addressed at this meeting

VIII. New Business –

- a. Discussion of Potential Proposals to be submitted as authors/submitters and feed back discussion for proposers.

The discussion focused on addressing concerns about out-of-state hunters and the sale of moose antlers in Unit 18. Grant presented a proposal to regulate non-resident hunters, which received unanimous support from the group. The group also considered a proposal to restrict the sale of harvested moose antlers, allowing only naturally shed antlers or those made into handicrafts to be sold, which was adopted unanimously. Fran suggested looking at additional regulations, including limiting bull moose harvest and adjusting hunting seasons for non-residents. The conversation ended with a brief discussion of an out-of-cycle proposal that had been submitted as an ACR this past season regarding the destruction of trophy value of game in specific areas. The AC voted unanimously to also resubmit that proposal as it would now be in cycle.

- b. The committee agreed to adopt three proposals as their own: two antler-related proposals and one for a controlled hunting area.

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>			
Establish the Andreafski Wilderness Controlled Use Area within Unit 18 with exact boundaries to be determined in coordination with others.			
Presented by Yukon Kuskokwim Regional Tribal Government; Motion to adopt as Mid-Lower Yukon Proposal made by George, 2 nd by Ivy			
Support	5	0	1 abstention – Bill Alstrom abstained because he would like more details. Motion to amend the proposal to include Black River Drainage River area and all its tributaries, Ivy 2 nd . Unanimous. The proposed control use area will help with competition between local and outside hunters. Comments and reasoning contained in the proposal also apply to the Black River Area that the proposal was amended to include.
Restrict the sale of moose antlers in Unit 18, unless the antler is naturally shed or is an article of handicraft			
Support	Unanimous		Hunting antler sheds is a past time and a way to make money, which is why we have shied away from restricting antler sales in the past. But this proposal would still allow for sheds to be sold, so it wouldn't hurt the economic side, but would prohibit people from sawing off antlers for sale and discourage head-hunting.
Upon harvested moose or at time of kill, antler must be sawed off.			
Support	Unanimous		The proposal was submitted to address the illegal activity of people searching for recently harvested moose and stealing the antlers or headhunters. People are also

Proposal Description			
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			harvesting moose based on antler size more and more. We want to submit this proposal again to show the board that there continues to be a growing problem out here.

- c. Officer Elections: During officer elections, George was elected as chair, Basil as vice chair, and Fran as secretary. Basil and George were nominated as chair. Basil declined but agreed to serve as vice chair. Ivy, Chris, and Francis were nominated as secretary but both Ivy and Chris declined. New officers to begin their roles at the next Mid-Lower Yukon AC Meeting.
- IX. Set next meeting date
 - a. The group decided to schedule their next meeting for early November, with the exact date to be determined closer to the time.
- X. Other
- XI. Adjourn; George moved to adjourn, 2nd by Ivy. Meeting was adjourned at 3:37

Minutes Recorded By: Francis Thompson
 Minutes Approved By: George Beans, Chair
 Date: 4/26/26

Nushagak Advisory Committee

Final Minutes

Wednesday, April 29th, 2025, at 5:30 PM Online via Zoom

- I. Call to Order: 6:06pm
- II. Roll Call
 - I. Members Present: Dan Dunaway, Travis Ball (Vice Chair), Travis Wren, Kenneth Nukwak, Jessie Rogers, Todd Fritze, Susie Jenkins-Brito (Chair), Lindsey Layland (Secretary)
 - II. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Leila Williams from Boards Support leila.williams@alaska.gov
- IV. Guests Present: None
- V. Approval of Agenda - Moved by Dan, Second by Travis B, Agenda approved with no edits.
- IX. New Business
 - I. BOF Supplemental proposal 189 - Dan moved to adopt, Trav B second. After lengthy discussion Trav B called the question. Proposal passed with unanimous support - see Proposal template for discussion notes.
- X. Set date of next meeting - At the call of the Chair
- XI. Committee comments - Dan and Susie will approve minutes for on time submission by April 30th to the BOF.

ADJOURN 6:32pm

<p style="text-align: center;">Alaska Board of Fish: Supplemental Proposals May 1, 2026 Anchorage, Alaska</p>			
<p>Proposal Number</p>	<p>Proposal Description</p>		
<p>Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action</p>	<p>Number Support</p>	<p>Number Oppose</p>	<p>Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes</p>
<p><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></p>			
<p>189</p>	<p>Established traditional knowledge policies in regulation</p>		
<p>Support</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Summary of Discussion on Traditional Knowledge (TK) Proposal</p> <p>Members expressed general support for incorporating Traditional Knowledge into Board deliberations, recognizing its value alongside scientific information and its potential to strengthen decision-making. Several noted they benefit from hearing directly from TK holders and agreed this could provide a more inclusive and meaningful platform, particularly for rural and regional perspectives.</p> <p>Key concerns focused on clarity and implementation. Members were unsure exactly what they were being asked to vote on and emphasized the need for clearer, final language before offering support. There was discomfort with the proposal being solely at the discretion of the Board Chair, citing concerns about inconsistency over time and potential bias, especially given political dynamics and external stakeholder influence particularly from KRSA.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Alaska Board of Fish: Supplemental Proposals May 1, 2026 Anchorage, Alaska</p>			
<p>Proposal Number</p>	<p>Proposal Description</p>		
<p>Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action</p>	<p>Number Support</p>	<p>Number Oppose</p>	<p>Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes</p>
			<p>Several suggested allowing Advisory Committees (ACs) to weigh in on who is eligible to present TK from their area.</p> <p>There was extensive discussion about the scope and equity of representation, noting that Traditional Knowledge varies significantly between villages and regions. Questions were raised about limits on the number of presenters, how conflicts or differing knowledge bases would be handled, and how TK differs from local or personal experience. Clarification was provided that Traditional Knowledge and Local Knowledge are formally distinct under the proposal by Leila from Boards Support.</p> <p>Members also raised access and logistics concerns, particularly around advance sign-up requirements. While a formal application process and deadline were outlined, some worried this could disadvantage rural TK holders who may be less familiar with regulatory processes. Time constraints were noted as a practical challenge, given past meetings with high numbers of TK presenters particularly at the recent Area M meeting in which 31 TK speakers presented.</p> <p>Overall, members leaned toward supporting the proposal in principle, there was agreement that revisions or</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Alaska Board of Fish: Supplemental Proposals May 1, 2026 Anchorage, Alaska</p>			
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			<p>amendments at the Board level may be needed to address discretion, clarity, fairness, and practical application.</p>

Written by: Dan Dunaway
 Approved by: Susan Jenkins-Brito
 Date: 04/30/2026

**TYONEK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Dates: April 1–3 (April 3rd Portion)

Location: Tyonek, Alaska

Chair: Donnie

Recorder: Alex

ADF&G Staff: Leila Williams (Board support), Lucas Stumpf, Acting Assistant Management Biologist

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order, and roll call was conducted. Quorum was established with nine committee members present. (Call to order/End of recess @ 12:07)

Name	Title	Present/Excused/Unexcused
Donald Standifer, Jr.	Chair	P
Elizabeth Standifer	Vice Chair	P
Alex Pfoff	Secretary	P
Nicole Swenson		P
Donald Standifer, Sr.		P
Robert Stephan, Sr.		P
John Standifer		P
Terry Jorgenson		U
Cassandra Kroto		U
Michaelene Stephan		P
Juliana Bismark		P (arrived at 12:26, before vote)
Steven Standifer		P
Andy Wizik		E
Emil McCord	Alternate	U
Mike Braun	Alternate	U

Lucas Stumpf joined as ADF&G representative; Leila Williams as board support.

2. Review of Proposals (189–192)

The committee discussed whether to address proposals 189-192 immediately or wait for

coordination with the Native Village of Tyonek (NVT).

NVT planned to review the proposals during their upcoming meeting.

Decision: The committee proceeded with non-subsistence proposals and will maintain communication with NVT.

3. Proposal: Additional Fishing Days with Reduced Gear (Mon/Wed/Fri)

The committee reviewed and amended the proposal to allow Monday/Wednesday/Friday fishing opportunities using reduced gear.

Safety and tender-service language was added based on Andy's recommendations.

A detailed discussion focused on whether to allow one net or two nets totaling 35 fathoms.

- The two-net option failed twice. Roll call vote on language including 2 nets (1-8-1) failed.

Roll call vote on language indicating one or two nets, totaling 35 fathoms (2-6-2). Vote on language indicating one net, 35 fathoms (9-0-1). Passes. Proposal voted on containing amended (current) language, passed unanimously.

- Final decision: One net, no longer than 35 fathoms per permit.

Reversion language was updated to reference 5 AAC 21.331, returning to the current management plan when coho becomes the most abundant species.

Outcome: Proposal finalized and approved.

4. Proposal Submission Timeline and Tribal Coordination

The committee expressed a desire for NVT and TTCD to be listed as supporting organizations.

NVT planned to meet on April 8; TTCD support could be obtained via poll vote.

Decision: Alex will submit proposals by April 9. Organizational support may be added if received; otherwise, proposals will be submitted under the Tyonek AC name only.

5. Proposal 189 – Traditional Ecological Knowledge Policy

Members expressed concerns about:

- The difference between traditional and local knowledge
- Removal of the word "Aboriginal"
- Lack of clear qualifications for testimony

Concerns were raised about potential misuse under the current system.

Outcome: Proposal tabled until April 14 for further discussion.

6. Proposal 190 – Yukon River King Salmon Stock of Concern

The committee expressed support for the action plan due to shared challenges with declining salmon runs.

Outcome: Unanimous support.

7. Proposal 191 – Yukon River Fall Chum Salmon Stock of Concern

Motion to approve was made by Michaelene and seconded by Juliana.

Outcome: Unanimous support.

8. Proposal 192 – Allow Set Seine Gear on East Side Setnet Fishery

ADF&G provided details on forecast thresholds and how the proposal would function.

Committee concerns included handling mortality, enforcement challenges, gear cost, and existing fishing pressure.

Outcome: Unanimous opposition.

9. Commercial Fishing Challenges in Tyonek Area

The committee discussed ongoing issues, including emergency closures, lack of tender service, and low permit participation due to poor economic conditions.

Only eight active permit holders currently fish the proposed sub-district.

Increasing recreational fishing pressure is expected due to the Westside access road.

Conclusion: A sub-district is needed to track local harvest and improve fishing opportunity.

10. Weir Placement Discussion

The committee discussed the idea of a weir below Tyonek.

Past attempts in the Chuit River failed due to extreme water fluctuations.

The Board of Fish cannot require ADF&G to install a weir; funding must come from the legislature.

Conclusion: A new weir is not feasible; the sub-district proposal remains the best option for local harvest tracking.

11. Subcommittee Planning for Future Proposal Development

The committee agreed to use subcommittees for proposal review and development outside public meetings.

Planning sessions with NVT and TTCD may occur informally.

Final votes must occur during publicly noticed meetings.

Outcome: Subcommittee process endorsed.

12. Meeting Minutes Approval Process

Meeting minutes from the April 1–3 session will be approved via email.

Alex will distribute draft minutes to members for review.

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 14 at 12:00 PM.**

Agenda: Review, amend, and vote on Proposal 189 (Traditional Ecological Knowledge Policy).

Meeting adjourned at 2:35

14. Action Items

Alex

- Submit three approved proposals by April 10
- Add NVT and/or TTCD as consulted parties on proposals for support if received
- Distribute meeting minutes for email approval

Leila

- Send final proposal drafts to committee members
- Publicly notice the April 14 meeting
- Share proposal documents during meetings

Robert Stephan Sr.

- Present proposals to NVT on April 8
- Coordinate with Alex to add NVT support if approved

Nicole (TTCD)

- Facilitate TTCD board poll vote
- Communicate decision to Alex before April 9

Committee Members

- Review Proposal 189 prior to April 14
- Approve emailed meeting minutes

Lucas (ADF&G)

- Provide additional weir information to the AC
- Continue offshore test fishery work

Tyonek Advisory Committee
Tuesday, April 29th, 2026
Tyonek and Zoom

I. Call to Order: 4:15pm by Donnie Standifer

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

Name	Title	Present/Excused/Unexcused
Donald Standifer, Jr.	Chair	Present
Elizabeth Standifer	Vice Chair	Present
Alex Pfoff	Secretary	Excused
Nicole Swenson		Present
Donald Standifer, Sr.		Present
Robert Stephan, Sr.		Excused
John Standifer		Excused
Terry Jorgenson		Excused
Cassandra Kroto		Excused
Michaelene Stephan		Present
Julieanna Bismark		Excused
Steven Standifer		Present
Andy Wizik		Present
Emil J McCord	Alternate	Excused
Mike Braun	Alternate	Excused

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 7

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Jackie Keating, Leila Williams

IV. Guests Present: Laurie Stuart

V. Approval of Agenda

VI. Reports

a. Others

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Old Business:

a. Continue Board of Fisheries Special Session Proposals

i. Proposal 189 Discussion

Alaska Board of Fisheries Board-Generated Proposals for Special Session May 1 st , 2026 Online Only (Zoom) at 1:00pm Comment Deadline April 28 th , 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>			
189	Adopt a policy on Traditional Knowledge into regulation		
Support	7	0	Members expressed support for the proposal, noting her discussion with various stakeholders and the distinction it makes between local and traditional knowledge.

- IX. New Business
 - a. Other Fish & Game Business as Needed
- X. Set next meeting date for Tyonek Advisory Committee: Will decide in the fall
- XI. Other: Approve today’s meeting minutes so they can be submitted immediately
- XII. Adjourned at 4:30pm
- XIII. Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Donnie Standifer
 Minutes Approved By: Elizabeth Standifier, Vice Chair
 Date: 04/29/2026