

Klawock AC Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 12.15.2021-Klawock



AC06
1 of 5

Call to Order: 6:12pm by Dennis Nickerson

Roll Call:

Klawock AC Members	Officer	Designation	Present	Absent	Unexcused	Expiration
Dennis Nickerson	Chair	Klawock	x (online)			June 2024
Kurt Whitehead	Vice Chair	Klawock	x			June 2022
Brenda Leask	Secretary	Klawock	x (phone)			June 2022
Nick Nickerson		Klawock		x		June 2024
Tom Leask		Klawock	x (phone)			June 2023
Irving Langmaid		Klawock	x			June 2022
Tylo Kennedy		Klawock	x (online)			June 2023
Mike Kennedy		Klawock	x (online)			June 2023

Number needed for a quorum: 5

ADFG Staff Present:

Craig Schwanke (sportfish), Henry Lesia (board support-online)

Guests present: Andrew Sanders (online)

Approval of Agenda:

Moved and seconded to approve the agenda as amended to add discussion of the proposals.

Unanimous vote-yes.

Reports:

Chair: None

ADFG: None

Other: None

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Elections:

Kurt nominated Dennis Nickerson, Mike Kennedy, Tom Leask and Tylo Kennedy to the AC.

Nominations closed.

Moved and seconded to close elections.

Unanimous vote-yes.

Motion made and seconded to elect Dennis Nickerson, Mike Kennedy, Tom Leask and Tylo Kennedy to the AC.

Unanimous vote-yes

Officer elections:



Kurt nominated Dennis Nickerson as Chair.
Moved and seconded to close nomination and cast unanimous ballot vote.
Brenda Leask nominated Kurt as Vice Chair.
Moved and seconded to close nomination and cast unanimous ballot vote.
Kurt nominated Brenda Leask as Secretary.
Moved and seconded to close nomination and cast unanimous ballot vote.

Moved and seconded to have terms expire as shown on the above chart for the AC.
Unanimous vote-yes.

Proposals:

129:

Kurt read comments of concern from the Craig AC: There is a risk of unintentionally harvesting sockeye.
Moved and seconded to approve.

Discussion:

Is catching sockeye a concern while targeting cohos in the Klawock river?

Mike Kennedy: I've never caught sockeye while fishing for coho. It's too late for sockeye at that time.

Dennis Nickerson: The run times are different for sockeye and coho. They do not overlap. This is one reason we are proposing to reduce our season for the sockeye in proposal 130. The best time to catch sockeye in the Klawock river is the week of July 19 which is the middle of the season. In all the years he's been fishing he has never caught a sockeye while fishing for coho.

Brenda Leask: Agrees with Dennis and Mike, supports the prop and states that we are literally choking on coho here.

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote

Support our proposal with comments that we've never caught sockeye during the coho fishing season because the run times are different.

130:

Kurt: The Craig AC doesn't support it because it involves the federal waters of Klawock lake and river.

Moved and seconded to support with comments that we change this proposal to the saltwater/estuary only and remove the river/lake.

Discussion:

Kurt read comments from the Craig AC about a concern of having state and federal jurisdictions overlap which is why they weren't in support. Recommended we support the proposal with a change that this proposal to the saltwater/estuary only.

Dennis Nickerson: Good point. we need to keep the state and federal jurisdictions separate. July 7-August 7 was the original season dates and we are willing to give up some days at the beginning and end of the season. We should amend our proposal to only be for the saltwater/estuary and not the river/lake.

Brenda Leask: As the subsistence user, we are taking a hard hit, having to NOT go harvest our traditional foods. We are the ones paying the price. Why aren't things in place to better monitor the predation of the sockeye? I think it's poor management.

Dennis Nickerson: Other measures being taken to address the low sockeye numbers are:

Full support from SSRAA for having a trout fishing day on the lake to harvest cutthroat. Cutthroat vacuum up the sockeye eggs in Three Mile Creek.

Habitat improvements on Three Mile Creek that include removing all the culverts and installing a bridge, a trail along the creek for better access to catch the trout, removing one of the logging roads blocking a tributary,

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

200:

Kurt read the proposal.

Moved and seconded to support.

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

209:



Kurt read the proposal. There are 3 different changes rolled into one proposal. We should give the board on how to reduce the non res harvest however they think best which is the goal of the proposal. V hard time harvesting crabs due to the sea otters. This proposal will increase our food security.

Craig Schwanke: Commercial fisheries manages the crab. Sport fish doesn't have any conservation concerns for dungeness crab in SE. The best option is to ask the board for ways to reduce the harvest.

Moved and seconded to support with comments that the board decides what's best to reduce the non res harvest.

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

236:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. about our seasonal resident proposal. This proposal will have the single biggest impact for food security for SE AK residents.

Moved and seconded to support.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

217:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. and how it would benefit the trollers and possibly the trollers at the Klawock dock.

No action

227:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. This proposal would benefit the charter industry and residents. He asked to have the yelloweye rockfish removed from the non pelagic bag limit so the yelloweye aren't lumped into any other bag limits.

Moved and seconded to support and ask the board to remove yelloweye rockfish from the non pelagic bag limit and put them in a separate category since they are the only rockfish with a conservation concern.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

206:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. This proposal would benefit local residents and improve enforcement.

Moved and seconded to support.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

207:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. This proposal would benefit local residents.

Moved and seconded to support.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

208:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. This proposal would benefit local residents.

Moved and seconded to support.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

204:



Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. This proposal would benefit local residents and enforcement.

Moved and seconded to support.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

179:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. This proposal would benefit local residents and improve enforcement.

Moved and seconded to support.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

178:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. This proposal would benefit local residents and improve enforcement.

Moved and seconded to support.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

174:

Kurt read the proposal and gave background info. This proposal would improve the resource and benefit local residents.

Moved and seconded to support.

Craig Schwanke said this change in dates might cause a conflict with other boaters/shrimpers during this timeframe.

Discussion: None

Vote:

Yes-Unanimous vote.

134:

Kurt read the proposal, gave background info. and noted some Craig AC members had concerns and said this makes sense if you are using a gill net but doesn't work if you are using a beach seine net in small areas.

Dennis Nickerson: This is already a stipulation on the subsistence permit but it is not a regulation. We use the bridge as a guideline. That's something we've always followed.

Brenda Leask: It already says this on our subsistence permit. This is irritating to me. If we can allow fishing lodges squatting at the mouth of our rivers, why are subsistence and personal user groups being singled out in this. This is insulting. It already states on our permits where we can and cannot go. You want to talk about obstruction or manmade objects, I can assure you it's not a gill net or anything else for that matter from the personal user or subsistence user. We have lodges squatting right in the mouth of our rivers and that's more upsetting to me than a gill net.

Kurt Whitehead: We could take no action.

Irving Langmaid: No action.

No action

Kurt asked if the AC wants to discuss king salmon proposals 80-95 and deferred to the group.

Craig Schwanke gave an overview of the proposals.

Kurt: We need to select a representative to represent us at the Board of Fish meetings.

Henry Lesia: ADFG has a block of rooms for members of the AC's and pays for one member of the AC to travel as well as a daily allowance for food.

Brenda: Dennis would be a great choice to represent us at the meeting.

Dennis: Would be honored to represent the Klawock AC

Moved and seconded to have Dennis Nickerson as the Klawock AC representative at the BOF meeting.



Vote:
Yes-Unanimous vote.

Mike Kennedy: Would like to go as well.

Henry Lesia: The state will only pay for one representative from the AC per meeting. One representative for the board of fish meeting January 4-15 and one representative for the statewide meeting in March 11-16.

Kurt: Anyone can go and testify so please do so. Please fill out the new member forms and return to Henry.

Craig: Gave more info on the meeting

Kurt: East PoW AC representative is Kurt, Craig AC hasn't made their decision yet. Coordinate with Henry on travel plans. Statewide meeting is in Anchorage.

Next Klawock AC meeting date:

March 23, 2022

May 1 is the deadline for board of game proposals. Proposed to have our next meeting after the statewide meeting. March 23 was agreed.

Board of Fish representative for the Klawock AC.

Moved and seconded to have Dennis Nickerson represent us at the statewide meeting.

Discussion:

Dennis said he has prior commitments.

Brenda asked Kurt if he would go but he is uncertain. Kurt asked if anyone else would like to go and explained how the testimony works. The reps get 10 minutes to speak and the private persons get 3 minutes.

Brenda nominated Nick Nickerson and Dennis said he will check with him. Kurt said we can select a representative

Kurt retracted his previous motion and made a new motion to send any member of the Klawock AC to the statewide meeting at a later date.

Irving retracted his second on the previous motion and seconded the new motion.

Vote:
Yes-Unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned: 8:33pm

Meeting minutes recorded by: Kurt Whitehead

Meeting minutes approved by: Dennis Nickerson

Date: 12.21.2021