

**Nushagak Advisory Committee  
Proposal 174 Subcommittee  
Monday November 26, 2018  
Alaska Dept Fish and Game Conference Room  
Dillingham, Alaska**

I. **Call to Order:** 10:05 by Chairman Frank Woods

II. **Roll Call:**

**All four subcommittee members present:**

Frank Woods	Curt Armstrong
Dan Dunaway	Tom O'Connor

III. **Other People Present:**

ADFG Staff:

Taryn O'Connor Boards

Tim Sands Com Fish

Jordan Head - Com Fish arrived later in the meeting

No AWT Officers were present or available .

No Public present

Tele conference phone was available - no listeners identified.

IV. **Adopt Agenda:**

Dan Moved, Tom 2nd to adopt.

adopted with unanimous consent.

V. **Proposal 174:**

Sands introduced the proposal and the Dept. Public Safety's supporting letter to the Board of Fish (BOF) regarding the issue with Special Harvest Areas in the Bristol Bay commercial salmon fishery.

During the 2018 opening of the Naknek River Special Harvest area questions arose regarding whether any of the Bristol Bay Special Harvest areas were within any commercial fishing districts.

Additionally questions arose regarding the operation and deployment of set net fishing gear in the Special Harvest Areas (SHA).

Prop 174 was submitted as single package to resolve these questions. The November 14 DPS letter (**Letter**) was a more detailed effort to provide clear regulatory language to the BOF and public.

Sands and committee members discussed past practices, the problem with a loss of corporate memory of past practices and understanding of the regulations for these SHAs.

The committee briefly discussed potential subsistence fishery impacts and were re-assured there are regulations in place to address subsistence and not part of this issue.

It appears that with the SHAs not officially IN commercial districts, all district registration and transfer regulations may not apply - this could create a lot of confusion, particularly if there was a major fleet shift from another district.

Troopers these days seem to be reading the book in more detail and getting different interpretations than we used to do. They are becoming more sticklers, is this really a problem?

\*\*\*\* A short discussion regarding page 2 the **Letter** and 5AAC 06.350 Closed Waters (a) The following locations in the Nushagak District are closed to the taking of salmon:

"Should we ask the BOF to consider adding **commercial** to the line in front of salmon? " The committee agreed we should make this suggestion.

#### **MOTION**

Dan moved Tom O 2nd to adopt the 11-14-2018 Dept Public Safety letter as substitute language in Proposal 174.

#### **OPPOSED 0-4 committee requests BOF review comments below:**

The committee expressed disappointment no FWT officer was available to help explain this proposal.

Further concerns were expressed regarding the "place holder" language. We hope we can assume the **Letter** is the refined proposal language.

It appears the underlined language on the first page of the Letter **including drainages** is the suggested key solution Is it too broad? Would this raise concerns that commercial fishing might happen all the way to the source of the drainages?

\*\*\*\* A suggestion the committee preferred was to change to **including "portions of the" drainages** such as:

**The Bristol Bay Area consists of all waters of Alaska in Bristol Bay including **portions of the** drainages enclosed by a line from Cape Newenham at 58° 38.88' N. lat., 162° 10.51' W. long., to Cape Menshikof at 57° 28.34' N. lat., 157° 55.84' W. long.**

Would this include all the tidal gullies and creeks in the WRSHA? There are even creeks entering some SHAs and some are fished effectively.

Discussion of how the district boundaries are not all in one place in the regulation book. In the case of the Nushagak District, the outer boundaries are in one section and one must seek out the Closed Waters section to find the inner or upper boundaries of the commercial districts. Very confusing.

\*\*\*\* The committee thought it would be better to put complete descriptions of all boundaries of each commercial district in one place in the regulations. Add the full descriptions of the SHAs in the same section and declare them parts of the respective commercial districts.

"We need the Troopers to more completely explain this whole issue, I'm not comfortable adopting any language until I understand their concerns."

"I'm uncomfortable adding whole drainages, that is too broad."

## **VI. Process to approve this subcommittee meeting minutes**

### **MOTION**

Tom O move Dan 2nd to: Dan will write up minutes and submit his draft to Chairman Frank for his review and approval. ASAP.

APPROVED 4-0 by unanimous consent.

## **VII. Adjourn: 10:54 AM**