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## **Agenda 10: Meeting Dates and Locations for 2026/2027 Cycle**

1. Memorandum on 2026/2027 Meeting Dates and Locations
  - Appendix 1- Meeting Dates and Locations Worksheet
  - Appendix 2- Board of Fisheries Long Term Goals (91-126-FB)

# MEMORANDUM

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Boards Support Section

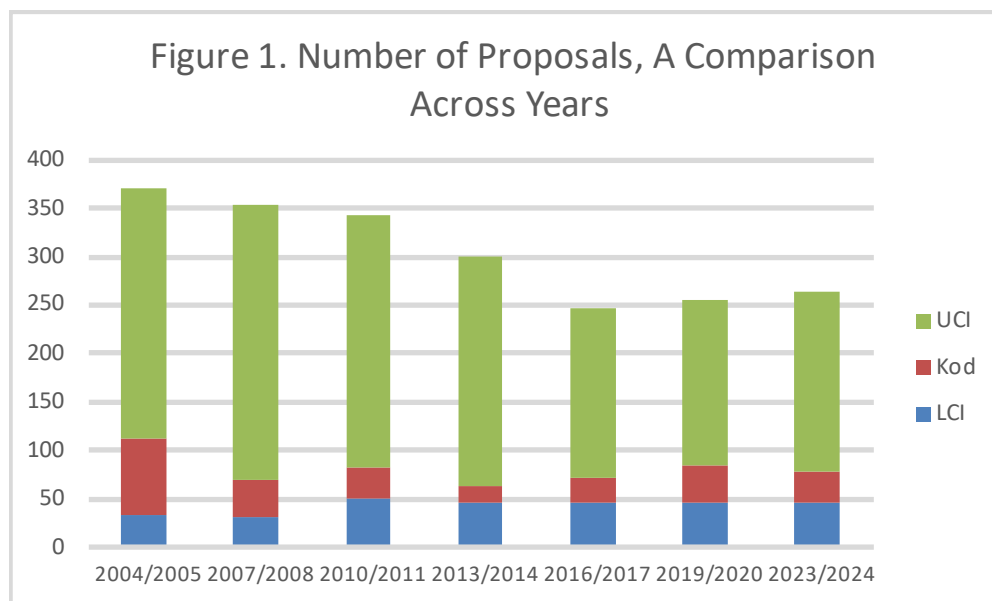
TO:	Alaska Board of Fisheries	DATE:	October 14, 2024
THRU:		PHONE:	907-267-2292
FROM:	Art Nelson, Executive Director Alaska Board of Fisheries	SUBJECT:	Meeting location, dates, and cycle scenarios for the 2026/2027 meeting cycle

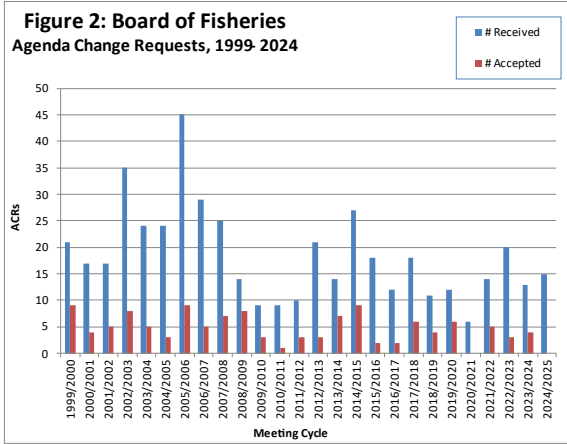
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The Board of Fisheries (board) will select preliminary preferred and backup dates as well as locations for board meetings in the 2026/2027 meeting cycle. These tentative decisions are made two years ahead of time so Boards Support staff can work with meeting venues, hotels, and communities well in advance to secure the necessary accommodations. The 2026/2027 board cycle includes finfish in the Lower Cook Inlet, Upper Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Management Areas. This memo provides staff recommendations for preferred and backup meeting dates, past meeting metrics, and community data for the board’s consideration in choosing meeting locations.

### Observations from the 2023/2024 meeting cycle

During its 2023/2024 meeting cycle, the board deliberated 258 proposals, four of which were accepted as Agenda Change Requests (ACRs). This volume of proposals is roughly on par with the two previous meeting cycles for the same areas and fisheries but represents a decrease in proposals over the long term (Figure 1).





Work Session Considerations and Agenda Change Requests

October work sessions have worked well within the allotted two-day time period. The number of ACRs drives meeting workload, but even in years with a relatively high number of requests, the two-day meeting sufficed. Figure 2 offers a look at ACR numbers since 1999/2000. The general trend for the number of ACRs received is down. The long-term average acceptance rate for ACRs is 27.4%.

Proposed Dates for Meetings

Table 1 offers staff recommendations for proposed and backup days for the 2026/2027 meeting schedule.

Table 1. Proposed and Backup Dates for the 2026/2027 Meeting Cycle

	2023/2024	2026/2027		# Days
	<i>Actual dates</i>	<b>Proposed</b>	Backup	
Work Session	<i>Oct 12-13, 2023</i>	<b>Oct 28-29, 2026<sup>1</sup></b>	Oct 21-22, 2026 <sup>1,2</sup>	2
Lower Cook Inlet	<i>Nov 28-Dec 1, 2023</i>	<b>Dec 1-4, 2026</b>	Dec 8-11, 2026 <sup>2</sup>	4
Kodiak Finfish	<i>Jan 9-12, 2024</i>	<b>Jan 5-8, 2027</b>	Jan 12-15, 2027 <sup>2</sup>	4
Upper Cook Inlet Finfish	<i>Feb 23-Mar 6, 2024</i>	<b>Feb 25-Mar 8, 2027</b>	Mar 4-15, 2027	12
			<b>Total meeting days</b>	<b>22</b>

<sup>1</sup> Can include add'l weekdays for possible new member orientation or Hatchery Committee.

<sup>2</sup> Likely conflicts with PST meetings.

Meeting Duration:

Staff recommendations in Table 1 represent the same number of days for each of the meetings (scheduled and actual) from the 2023/2024 meeting cycle. Table 2 provides historical meeting statistics for the regulatory meetings in this cycle, particularly as it relates to meeting duration, number of proposals, the number and duration of staff reports and public testimony, and other metrics.

Meeting Location:

Table 3 provides community information for possible meeting locations for the 2026/2027 meeting cycle.

Other Meeting Considerations

These recommended dates are based on previous meeting durations and attempts to avoid conflicts with the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and Pacific Salmon Commission meetings. More information on the known or estimated dates of possible meeting or event conflicts are included in the worksheet found in Appendix 1.

In March 2009, the board identified factors that should be considered when determining the location for holding future meetings. The board intended that no single item shall be the sole determining guideline but rather the preponderance of the following items shall be considered significant in final selection of a meeting site:

1. Whether the community has commercial jet or turbine service;
2. Cellular phone service;
3. High speed internet available;
4. Adequate dining facilities/capacity for the Board of Fisheries, Fish and Game staff, and expected members of the public travelling from other communities;
5. Adequate meeting room facility and associated staff requirements;
6. Relative comfort (temperature inside, tables/chairs, etc.);
7. Adequate ground transportation;
8. Adequate hotel rooms and capacity of rooms for expected influx;
9. Hospital;
10. Relationship of community to Board of Fisheries topic of discussion;
11. Cost to Department of Fish and Game;
12. Travel time required;
13. Economic and cultural importance to the location; and
14. Economic impact on stakeholder travel.

**Table 2. Past Meeting Statistics for the 2026-2027 Meeting Cycle**

Lower Cook Inlet Finfish Meeting Statistics													
Year	Location	Days	Proposals	Proposals / Day	Department Reports	Time Department Reports (Hours)	Average Time per Report (min)	Testifiers (Public/AC)	Total Testifiers	Time for Testimony (hours)	Average Time Per Testifier (min)	# of RCs	RCs / Day
2023	Homer	4	47	11.75	8	4	30	59/7	66	6.5	5.9	74	
2019	Seward	4	47	11.75	7	3.0	26	43/7	50	4.3	5.1	53	13.25
2016	Homer	4	47	11.75	4	2.3	33.75	45/3	48	3.5	4.4	43	10.75
2013	Anchorage	4	45	11.25	3	2	40	18/6	24	3.25	8.1	38	9.5
2010	Homer	4	51	12.8	3	1.4	28	30/6	36	3.5	5.8	44	11.0
2007	Homer	3	31	10.3	2	1	30	32/4	36	4	6.7	66	22.0
2004	Anchorage	4	34	8.5	Unavailable	Unavailable	--	19/3	22	2.15	5.9	67	16.8
Average		3.9	43.1	11.2	4.5	2.3	31.2		40.3	3.9	6.0	55.0	13.9
Kodiak Finfish Meeting Statistics													
Year	Location	Days	Proposals	Proposals / Day	Department Reports	Time Department Reports (Hours)	Average Time per Report (min)	Testifiers (Public/AC/TK)	Total Testifiers	Time for Testimony (hours)	Average Time Per Testifier (min)	# of Record Copies	RCs / Day
2024	Kodiak	4	30	7.5	6	3.5	35	81/1/4	86	7.5	5.2	61	
2020	Kodiak	5	37	7.4	10	4.50	27.0	161/3	164	11.50	4.2	138	27.6
2017	Kodiak	4	25	6.25	7	4.00	34.3	87/3	90	7.25	4.8	67	16.8
2014	Kodiak	4	19	4.75	6	3.75	37.5	85/2	87	6.75	4.7	96	24
2011	Kodiak	4	31	7.8	5	3	36	59/2	61	4.25	4.2	76	19.0
2008	Kodiak	5	38	7.6	7	1.5	12.9	52/1	53	5.5	6.2	70	14.0
2005	Anchorage	4	78	19.5	5	2.75	33	60/1	61	6.3	6.2	??	
Average		4.3	38.0	8.9	6.7	3.3	30.1		86.0	6.9	5.0	89.4	20.3
Upper Cook Inlet Finfish Meeting Statistics													
Year	Location	Days	Proposals	Proposals / Day	Department Reports	Time Department Reports (Hours)	Average Time per Report (min)	Testifiers (Public/AC/TK)	Total Testifiers	Time for Testimony (hours)	Average Time Per Testifier (min)	# of Record Copies	RCs / Day
2024	Anchorage	12	186	15.5	8	5.25	39	95/11/4	110	11.75	6.4	249	20.8
2020	Anchorage	11	171	15.5	10	6.00	36	113/9	122	8.7	4.3	194	17.6
2017	Anchorage	14	174	12.4	11	5.80	32	87/6	93	8.15	5.3	219	15.6
2014	Anchorage	14	236	16.9	6	4.5	45	184/6	190	16.25	5.1	289	20.6
2011	Anchorage	14	260	18.6	9	5	33	139/11	151	13	5.2	260	18.6
2008	Anchorage	13	285	21.9	11	4.75	26	119/11	130	9.25	4.3	255	19.6
2005	Anchorage	13	258	19.8	6	3	30	90/7	97	14	8.7	165	12.7
Average		13	224	17.2	8.7	4.9	34.5		127.6	11.6	5.6	233.0	17.9

**Table 3. Community Information on Meeting Locations for the 2026/2027 Meeting Cycle**

Community (BOF Meeting Year)	Previous Meetings (since 2003)	Current Population <sup>1</sup>	Transportation	Meeting Venues (largest capacity sq. ft.)	Hotel Capacity (est. # of Rooms)	Restaurants	Internet Connectivity <sup>1</sup>	Cell Service <sup>1</sup>
<b>Anchorage Area</b>								
Anchorage	Annually	295,365	Major and regional air carriers Road system	Anchorage Marriott (8,000 sq. ft.) Hilton Anchorage (7,680 sq. ft.) Hotel Captain Cook (9,000 sq. ft.) Lake Front (3,496 sq. ft.) Sheraton Anchorage (9,400 sq. ft.) Westmark Anchorage (1,746 sq. ft.) Egan Convention Center (19,306 sq. ft.) Dena'ina Center (24,840 sq. ft.)	Multiple hotels (8,000 rooms in downtown) Multiple B&B and rentals	Multiple	Broadband (3 – 6 Mbps upload; 100 Mbps to 1 Gbps download)	Yes
Girdwood	2013 2005	2,769	Road system	Hotel Alyeska (3,150 sq. ft.)	1 hotel (300 plus rooms) Multiple B&B and rentals	5+	Broadband (3 – 6 Mbps upload; 100 Mbps to 1 Gbps download)	
<b>Kenai Peninsula</b>								
Kenai/Soldotna and vicinity	2016	37,046	Regional air carriers Road system Ferry (via Homer)	Soldotna Sports Center (3,600 sq. ft.) Kenai Visitors & Cultural Center (2,376 sq. ft.), Soldotna Field House (up to 24,725 sq.ft.)	Multiple hotels (room est)	10+	Broadband (3-6 Mbps upload; 100 Mbps – 1 Gbps download)	Yes
Homer	2022 2016	5,443	Regional air carriers Road system Ferry	Islands and Ocean Visitor Center (2,000 sq ft – est.) Land's End Resort (2,900 sq. ft)	5+ hotel (150+ rooms) Multiple B&B and rentals	10+	Broadband (50-100 Mbps upload; 50-100 Mbps download)	Yes
Seward	2019	2,584	Regional air carriers Road system Ferry (via Homer)	UAF/KM RAE Building (1,846 sq. ft.) AVTEC Student Recreation Facility (3,400 sq ft.) Seward Intermodal Facility (20,000 sq. ft.)	5+ hotels (200+ rooms) Multiple B&B and rentals	8+	Broadband (3 – 6 Mbps upload; 50-100 Mbps download)	Yes
<b>Matanuska Susitna area</b>								
Wasilla	Board of Game	8,801	Major and regional air carriers Road system	Lake Lucille Best Western (3,150 sq ft) Menard Sports Center (1,950 -13,125 sq ft.)	Multiple hotels in area Multiple B&B and rentals	10+	Broadband (3 – 6 Mbps upload; 10 Mbps to 25 Mbps download)	Yes
Palmer	Unknown	6,223	Major and regional air carriers Road system	Alaska State Fairgrounds – Raven Hall (20,000 sq. ft) Palmer Community Center (Depot) – (3,071 sq ft)	Multiple hotels in area Multiple B&B and rentals	10+	Broadband (3 – 6 Mbps upload; 100 Mbps to 1 Gbps download)	Yes
<b>Kodiak Island</b>								
Kodiak	2023 2020 2017 2014	13,136	Major and regional air carriers Road	Kodiak Marketplace ( Sq ft)	4+ hotel (est. 200 rooms) Multiple B&B and rentals	10+	Broadband (3 – 6 Mbps upload; 10 Mbps to 25 Mbps download)	Yes

<sup>1</sup> Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Community & Regional Affairs, Community Database, <https://dcra-cdo-dcced.opendata.arcgis.com/>.

## APPENDICES

1. Meeting dates and locations worksheet for 2026/2027 with history
2. Working Calendar October 2026-March 2027
3. Board Policy 91-126-FB – Board of Fisheries Long Term Goals

# APPENDIX 1

## Alaska Board of Fisheries

### 2026/2027

#### Proposed and Backup Meeting Dates Worksheet

Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish, and Kodiak Finfish and Supplemental Issues

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: Friday, April 10, 2026

Dates [and Duration]	Topics	Location
October 2026 [2 days]	Work Session, ACRs, cycle organization, Stocks of Concern	
<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Oct. 28-29, 2026 [2 days, Wed,Thurs]<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>tbd</b>
<b>Backup</b>	<b>Oct 21-22, 2026 [2 days, Wed,Thurs]<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>tbd</b>
<i>planned</i>	<i>October 28-29, 2025 [2 days]</i>	Anchorage
<i>current</i>	<i>October 29-30, 2024 [2 days, 15 ACRs]</i>	Anchorage
<i>prior years</i>	<i>October 12-13, 2023 [2 days, 13 ACRs]</i>	Anchorage
	<i>October 25-26, 2022 [2 days, 20 ACRs]</i>	Anchorage
	<i>October 20-21, 2021 [2 days, 14 ACRs]</i>	Anchorage
December 2026 [4 days]	Lower Cook Inlet Finfish	
<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Dec 1-4, 2026 [4 days, Tues-Fri]</b>	<b>tbd</b>
<b>Backup</b>	<b>Dec 8-11, 2026 [4 days, Tues-Fri]<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>tbd</b>
<i>prior years</i>	<i>Nov 28-Dec 1, 2023 [4 days, 43 prop.]</i>	Homer
	<i>December 10-13, 2019 [4 days, 47 prop.]</i>	Seward
	<i>November 30-December 3, 2016 [4 days, 47 prop.]</i>	Homer
	<i>December 8 – 11, 2013 in Anchorage [4 days, 45 prop.]</i>	Anchorage
	<i>November 15-18, 2010 in Homer [4 days, 40 prop.]</i>	Homer
January 2027 [4 days]	Kodiak Finfish	
<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Jan 5-8, 2027 [4 days, Tues-Fri]</b>	<b>tbd</b>
<b>Backup</b>	<b>Jan 12-15, 2027 [4 days, Tues-Fri]<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>tbd</b>
<i>prior years</i>	<i>January 9-12, 2024 [4 days, 31 prop.]</i>	Kodiak
	<i>January 11-15, 2020 [5 days, 37 prop.]</i>	Kodiak
	<i>January 10-13, 2017 [4 days, 25 prop.]</i>	Kodiak
	<i>January 7-10, 2014 [3 days, 19 prop.]</i>	Kodiak
	<i>January 11-14, 2011 [4 days, 31 prop]</i>	Kodiak
February 2027 [12 days]	Upper Cook Inlet Finfish	
<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Feb 25-Mar 8, 2027 [12 days Thurs-Mon+1]</b>	<b>tbd</b>
<b>Backup</b>	<b>Mar 4-15, 2027 [12 days, Thurs-Mon+1]</b>	<b>tbd</b>
<i>prior years</i>	<i>February 23-March 6, 2023 [12 days, 181 prop.]</i>	Anchorage
	<i>February 7-17, 2020 [11 days, 171 prop.]</i>	Anchorage
	<i>February 23-March 8, 2017 [14 days, 174 prop.]</i>	Anchorage
	<i>January 31-February 13, 2014 [14 days, 236 prop]</i>	Anchorage
	<i>February 20-March 5, 2011 [14 days, 211 prop]</i>	Anchorage

Total Meeting Days: 22

ACR Deadline: August 28, 2026 [Aug 21 if backup; *at least 60 days prior to fall Work Session*]

<sup>1</sup> Includes possible weekdays for Hatchery Committee and/or possible new member orientations

<sup>2</sup> Backup dates possibly conflict with PST meetings



## RELATED EVENTS / MEETINGS

### Upcoming Alaska Board of Game meeting dates:

*Dates for the 2026/2027 cycle have not yet been determined.*

### North Pacific Fishery Management Council: <https://www.npfmc.org/future-council-meetings/>

October 5-14, 2026, Homer

December 7-15, 2026, Anchorage

*Not likely to have a February meeting in 2027*

April 2023, Venue TBD

### Pacific Salmon Commission: [http://www.psc.org/meetings\\_schedule.htm](http://www.psc.org/meetings_schedule.htm)

Fall Meeting (Vancouver, BC) October 19-22, 2026

Post-season meeting not yet scheduled but likely Jan 11-15, 2027

Annual meeting not yet scheduled but likely Feb 9-12, 2027

*Note, this list does not include meetings of the various technical committees such as Transboundary, Northern Boundary, or Chinook.*

### Yukon River Panel: <https://www.yukonriverpanel.com/meetings/>

Unknown

### International Pacific Halibut Commission: <https://www.iphc.int/upcoming-meetings/>

Interim meeting, Seattle, typically late November

Annual meeting, typically late January

### State and Federal Holidays:

Alaska Day: October 18, 2026 (observed Oct 19th)

Veterans' Day November 11, 2026

Thanksgiving: November 26, 2026

Christmas: December 25, 2026

New Year, January 1, 2027

Martin Luther King Day, January 18, 2027

Presidents Day, February 15, 2027

Seward's Day, March 29, 2027

### Other

Alaska Federation of Natives Convention: likely October 15-17, 2026 (typically the third Thursday-Saturday in October)

Anchorage Spring Break: likely March 8-12, 2027 (typically second full week of March)

Super Bowl: Sunday, February 14, 2027

Anchorage Fur Rendezvous: likely Feb 26-March 7, 2027

Iditarod ceremonial start: likely Saturday, March 6, 2027 (first Saturday in March)

M E M O R A N D U MSTATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**TO:** Files **DATE:** September 9, 1991

**TELEPHONE:** 465-4110  
**FAX:** 463-5331  
**PROFS:** FBDCDIR

**FROM:** Board of Fisheries **SUBJECT:** Alaska Board of Fisheries Long Term Goal

The goal of the Alaska Board of Fisheries in implementing the Alaska Statute requirements is the long term stability of the various fisheries. The board prefers proposed regulatory changes which address the long term aspects in the specific fisheries. Fisheries are the subsistence, commercial, sport and personal use fisheries around the state. To accomplish the above goals, the following objectives and tasks are in place.

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**CALL FOR PROPOSAL DEADLINE**

The objective is to have all the proposed regulatory changes submitted prior to the beginning of fishing season. This way the Advisory Committees, Regional Councils, public and staff have the opportunity to evaluate the proposals in light of that season and consider the long term implications of the proposal. The following tasks are established to achieve the above objective:

- 1) The call for proposal deadline is April 10.
- 2) When April 10 falls on Saturday, Sunday, Monday or a holiday, the next closest business day will be deadline for that call.
- 3) Proposals must be received by Division of Boards staff by the above deadline.
- 4) Alaska Department of Fish and Game division proposals will be submitted to the respective director's office by the proposal deadline.

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**BOARD MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**

The objective is to establish the board meeting schedule to provide the advisory committees, regional councils, public and staff with the advance knowledge of when to propose regulatory changes, when to respond to proposed regulatory changes, plan meeting schedules, travel, etc. The following tasks are established to achieve the above objective:

- 1) Schedule meeting sessions no longer than 15 days in duration.

- 2) Schedule a reasonable length of time between sessions for board members and staff to take care of personal and business needs. A minimum of 7-10 days between sessions.
- 3) Leave as much of the month of October available for Joint Board of Fisheries and Game meetings as possible.
- 4) Leave as much of the month of March available for Joint Board of Fisheries and Game meetings as possible.
- 5) Do not schedule any board meetings past March 15, when possible.
- 6) Locate meetings in the region of the call for proposals.
- 7) Have each meeting session address one region. The current regional arrangements: Kodiak/Chignik; Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands, Bristol Bay; Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim; Cook Inlet; Prince William Sound; and Southeast.
- 8) If one session for one region is projected to last longer than 15 days, schedule more than one session for that region (i.e. Upper Cook Inlet and Lower Cook Inlet or Southeast Commercial fisheries and Other Southeast Finfish).
- 9) Schedule one session for all herring fish proposals. Have this session early in the meeting cycle.
- 10) Schedule one session for all shellfish proposals. Have this session late in the meeting cycle.
- 11) Review each region as noted above approximately every \_\_\_\_\_ years.
- 12) Administrative items will be considered at the end of the agenda.
- 13) When funding is available, a Joint meeting of the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game will be scheduled before the meeting cycles of the two boards.
- 14) When funding is available, a meeting of the Board of Fisheries to discuss the policies and goals of the board will be scheduled prior to the meeting session's beginning.
- 15) In creating the administrative record, insure that the allocation criteria is fully discussed.

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GENERAL ORDER OF BOARD AGENDA

- Call Meeting to Order
- Introduction of Board Members and Staff
- Election of Chair and Vice-Chair (where appropriate)
- Board Member Ethics Disclosures
- All Agency Reports
- All Public Testimony
- All Advisory Committee and Regional Council Reports
- Board Deliberations
- Administrative Items (i.e. Petitions, Resolutions, Findings, Letters, Policy Papers, etc.)
- Adjourn/Recess

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The objective is to provide adequate notice to the potentially affected public of the proposed regulation changes. These tasks are suggested:

- 1) Publish the legal notice in the region where the proposals will be considered (effect).
- 2) During Public Testimony, each individual will be allocated 7 minutes to testify before the board. Each individual will be allowed to testify only once during that session. If they testified at another session on these proposals at another meeting session, they will not be allowed to re-testify on the same proposals.
- 3) During Public Testimony, each organization will be allocated 10 minutes to testify before the board. Each organization will be allowed only one 10 minute block. Other people associated with the organization will need to testify as individuals.
- 4) Official Advisory Committee and Regional Council representatives will be allocated 15 minutes to report on the actions of their organization.
- 5) The blue cards for public testimony will be shuffled, then the list posted for the order of testimony. Special requests for changes in the posted order are to be arranged with the chair and director.