



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

**Department of Fish and Game**

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Date: June 6, 2014

To: Cora Campbell  
Commissioner

Thru: Jeff Regnart, Director  
Division of Commercial Fisheries

Charlie Swanton, Director  
Division of Sport Fish

From: Flip Pryor, Southeast Regional Resource Development Biologist

Subject: Yakutat regional planning team meeting.

The Yakutat regional planning team (RPT) met on May 21, 2014 at the ANB Hall in Yakutat. This memorandum contains a summary of information and discussion items. The RPT does not have any recommendations for the commissioner.

**Information and Discussion Items**

*Broodstock issues for enhancement in the Yakutat area.*

The preference in the *ADF&G Genetic Policy* (1985) is to use local stocks for fishery enhancement projects. Discussions of a chum salmon fishery enhancement project in Yakutat have revolved around the desire for summer-run chum salmon. Chum salmon runs in the Yakutat area have fall-run timing with small and inconsistent return numbers, which makes using local broodstock impractical. Bill Templin (ADF&G, Genetics) lead a discussion about genetic concerns associated with a fishery enhancement project using summer-run chum salmon in Yakutat. Very little is known about the genetic makeup of salmon in the Yakutat area and how that genetic makeup may relate to the distinct genetic populations of Southeast and Prince William Sound. A genetic sampling program on local chum salmon stocks will be implemented this summer to help establish baseline genetic makeup. Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association (YRAA) will coordinate collections in the field and work with the Gene Conservation Lab to have the samples analyzed.

Yakutat Regional Planning Team, Spring 2014

*A request for the addition of ex-officio non-voting members to the regional planning team.*

The RPT discussed the option of sending a request to the commissioner to add local representatives to the RPT as non-voting members. Possible representatives that were discussed include: the United States Forest Service, Yak-Tat-Kwaan, and Yakutat Tlingit Tribe. The RPT concluded that there is very little difference between a non-voting member and a member of the public who chooses to participate in the public meeting. Consensus from the RPT was to encourage interested parties to join the e-mail distribution list to stay informed of RPT activities and attend the meetings if they wish to participate.

*Review Second Draft of Phase II Yakutat Comprehensive Salmon Plan.*

YRAA contracted Kathy Hansen to initiate the first draft of the Yakutat Comprehensive Salmon Plan: Phase II. A significant portion of this meeting was spent clarifying and editing specific sections of the document. The goal is to finalize the draft and submit it to the private nonprofit hatchery program coordinator as soon as possible. The RPT will address comments received through the public review process at their next meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for late August.

cc:

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*Brian Frenette, Regional Supervisor, Division of Sport Fish (SF), Douglas*  
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