



FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT  
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## Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503 - 6199



FOREST SERVICE

OSM 21051.DP

AUG 26 2021

Donald Hernandez, Chair  
Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
1011 E. Tudor Road, M/S 121  
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199

Dear Chairman Hernandez:

The Federal Subsistence Board (Board) met on January 26-29, 2021 via teleconference to consider proposed changes to Federal subsistence management regulations for the harvest of fish and shellfish on Federal Public lands and waters in Alaska, fisheries closure reviews, and a nonrural determination proposal. This letter is to provide a report on the actions taken by the Board on proposals and closure reviews affecting Federally qualified subsistence users.

Section 805(c) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) provides that the Board will accept the recommendations of a Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) regarding take unless, (1) the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, (2) the recommendation violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife management, or (3) adopting the recommendation would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. When a Council's recommendation is not adopted, the Board is required by Secretarial regulations to set forth the factual basis and reasons for the decision.

Out of 14 fisheries proposals submitted, one proposal (FP21-04) was withdrawn by the proponent. The Board agreed with the recommendations of the Regional Advisory Councils, in whole or with modifications, on 9 proposals. The Board deferred its decision on Proposal FP21-10 until the next fisheries cycle to allow conflicting user groups to meet and attempt to reach a compromise. The Board reviewed 12 fisheries closure reviews and accepted the recommendations of the Regional Advisory Councils on 10 of 12 fisheries closure reviews. The Board voted to maintain status quo on 2 of them (FCR21-01 and FCR21-22) and to eliminate one of the closures (FCR21-06). The Board deferred 7 of 12 fisheries closure reviews (FCR21-08, -09, -11, -13, -16, -18, and -19) until next fisheries cycle to allow the Council to meet with communities and discuss the closures. The Board deliberated one rural determination proposal RP19-01 and agreed with the Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council recommendation with modification.

Details of these actions and the Boards' deliberations are contained in the meeting transcriptions. Copies of the transcripts may be obtained by calling toll free number 1-800-478-1456 and are available online at the Federal Subsistence Management Program website, <https://www.doi.gov/subsistence>.

The Board uses a consensus agenda on those proposals and closure reviews where there is agreement among the affected Regional Advisory Council(s), a majority of the Interagency Staff Committee, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game concerning a proposed regulatory action. These fisheries proposals and closure reviews were deemed non-controversial and did not require a separate discussion. The Board did not address any fisheries proposals, either on the consensus or non-consensus agenda, affecting the Southeast Region.

The consensus agenda contained one fisheries closure review affecting the Southeast Alaska Region, which the Board deferred to the Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council recommendation as follows: the Board supported maintaining closure (status quo) of **FCR21-22**, which is a closure of Makhnati Island Federal public waters in Sitka Sound the harvest of Herring and Herring spawn except by Federally qualified subsistence users.

The Federal Subsistence Board appreciates the Southeast Council's active involvement in and diligence with the regulatory process. The ten Regional Advisory Councils continue to be the foundation of the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and the stewardship shown by the Regional Advisory Council chairs and their representatives at the Board meeting was noteworthy.

If you have any questions regarding the summary of the Board's actions, please contact DeAnna Perry, Council Coordinator, at 907-209-7817 or [deanna.perry@usda.gov](mailto:deanna.perry@usda.gov).

Sincerely,



Anthony Christianson,  
Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board  
Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council members  
Sue Detwiler, Assistant Regional Director, Office of Subsistence Management  
Amea Howard, Deputy Assistant Regional Director and Acting Fisheries Division Supervisor  
Office of Subsistence Management  
Robbin La Vine, Policy Coordinator, Office of Subsistence Management  
George Pappas, State Subsistence Liaison, Office of Subsistence Management  
Katerina Wessels, Council Coordination Division Supervisor  
Office of Subsistence Management  
DeAnna Perry, Subsistence Council Coordinator, USDA – Forest Service  
Interagency Staff Committee  
Administrative Record