



Article 2 **Regional Fish and Game Councils**

Section

200. Establishment of a regional fish and game council system.

210. Fish and game resource management regions.

220. Regional fish and game councils.

230. (Repealed).

240. (Repealed).

245. Non-voting member.

250. Functions of regional fish and game councils.

260. Uniform rules of operation.

270. (Repealed).

280. Attendance at meetings.

5 AAC 96.200. Establishment of a regional fish and game council system

A system of regional fish and game councils is established to provide a regional forum for the collection and expression of opinions and recommendations on matters relating to fish and wildlife resources, to assist the boards in deliberations concerning regulations, and to provide for public participation in the regulatory process to help adequately protect subsistence uses.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.210. Fish and game resource management regions

(a) For the purposes of conservation and management of the fish and wildlife resources of the state, the following fish and game resource management regions are created:

(1) Southeast Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 1 - 5, that part of Unit 6 east of Cape Suckling, and adjacent marine waters;

(2) Southcentral Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 6 west of Cape Suckling, 7, 9A, 11, 13 - 16, and adjacent marine waters;

- (3) Southwest Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 8, 9B - E, 10, 17, and adjacent marine waters;
- (4) Western Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Unit 18 and that portion of the Kuskokwim River drainage in Game Management Unit 19 downstream from, and including, the George River drainage and the Hoholitna River drainage, and adjacent marine waters;
- (5) Arctic Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 22, 23, 26, and adjacent marine waters; and
- (6) Interior Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 12, 20, 21, 24, 25, and that portion of the Kuskokwim River drainage in Unit 19 upstream from the George River drainage and the Hoholitna River drainage.
- (b) The Game Management Units listed in (a) of this section are described in 5 AAC 90.010.
- (c) A board will, in its discretion, temporarily change the boundaries of regions for individual resource issues.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.220. Regional fish and game councils

The joint board will establish a council within each region described in 5 AAC 96.210. Each council will consist of the chairmen, or their designees, of the active committees established within the region. Any committee member who is a member of a council must be a resident of the region.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.230. Qualifications for membership

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.240. Non-voting members

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.245. Non-voting member

Each regional council may establish two seats for non-voting members if necessary to perform the functions set out in 5 AAC 96.250.

History: Eff. 9/22/85, Register 95





Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.250. Functions of regional fish and game councils

(a) Each council is authorized to:

(1) hold public meetings on fish and wildlife matters;

(2) elect officers;

(3) in consultation with the local fish and game advisory committees in its region and with the department, review, evaluate, and make a recommendation to a board on any existing or proposed regulation, policy, or management plan, or any other matter relating to the use of fish and wildlife, including any matter related to fish and wildlife habitat, within its region;

(4) perform other duties specified by a board; and

(5) submit to the joint board, the department, and the Secretary of Interior of the United States, by November 15 of each year, an annual report, containing:

(A) an identification of current and anticipated subsistence uses of fish and wildlife populations within the region, and other fish and wildlife uses that the council identifies;

(B) an evaluation of current and anticipated subsistence needs for use of fish and wildlife populations within the region, and of other fish and wildlife needs that the council identifies;

(C) a recommended strategy for the management of fish and wildlife populations within the region to accommodate the identified fish and wildlife uses and needs; and

(D) recommendations concerning policies, standards, guidelines, and regulations to implement the strategy.

(b) A council shall provide a forum for, and assist its local fish and game advisory committees in, obtaining the opinions and recommendations of people interested in fish and wildlife matters so as to achieve the greatest possible local participation in the decision-making process. If differences of opinion exist among the committees, the council shall attempt to develop areas of compromise and to reach a regional consensus on matters of controversy.

(c) A council will, in its discretion, present recommendations concerning the conservation, regulation, management, and use of fish and wildlife resources within its region, along with the evidence upon which the recommendations are based, to the appropriate board.

(d) A council may make recommendations to the joint board on the creation, consolidation, distribution, or operation of the committee system.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.260. Uniform rules of operation

(a) **Rules.** Every action taken by a council must comply with the uniform rules of operation for committees set out in 5 AAC 96.060(j), (k), (m), and (q) - (s). The rules in (b) - (d) of this section supersede the corresponding rules in 5 AAC 96.060(c), (e), (o), and (t).

(b) **Responsibilities.** A council shall perform the functions described in 5 AAC 96.250 in accordance with the provisions of 5 AAC 96 and 97.

(c) **Membership.** Membership on a council is as provided in 5 AAC 96.220.

(d) **Meetings.** Each council shall hold regular meetings at times appropriate to the process described in 5 AAC 96.610. The chairman or a majority of a council's members may call a special meeting at which any interested person may submit statements to the council on any matter related to the purposes for which the meeting is called. Council meetings are public meetings under AS 44.62.310 and 44.62.312 and must be advertised in the region. The council shall allow public testimony at every council meeting.

(e) **Recommendations.** A council must convey any recommendation to the appropriate board in writing and with a justification or explanation before the start of the board meeting.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/26/90, Register 115

Authority: AS 16.05.260

Editor's note: An amendment to 5 AAC 96.260(e) was adopted jointly by the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game in 1990, took effect 9/26/90, and should have appeared in Register 115, October 1990. The amendment, however, was inadvertently omitted when Register 115 was published, and did not appear in print until Register 122, July 1992.

5 AAC 96.270. Report of activities

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.280. Attendance at meetings

When adequate funding exists, the chairman, or his designee, shall attend regulatory meetings of the boards. Each council shall cooperate with other councils on matters of mutual interest and concern, and will, in its discretion, hold joint meetings, authorized by the boards, to accomplish this purpose.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

Article 3
Administration of Local Fish and Game Committees

Section

400. (Repealed).

410. Distribution of local fish and game advisory committees.

420. Review of requests for local fish and game advisory committees.

430. (Repealed).

440. Board assistance.

450. Committee status and change of status.

460. Attendance at meetings.

5 AAC 96.400. Operation of local fish and game advisory committee system

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.410. Distribution of local fish and game advisory committees

The joint board will, to the extent feasible, establish and locate committees to allow an opportunity for all citizens of the state to participate in the regulatory system.

