

An Overview of the Alaska Board of Fisheries

House Fisheries Committee

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Outline

- Purpose and composition of Board
- Steps in board process
- Input on board decisions
 - Public
 - Agency
- Legal and policy input in board decisions
 - Statutes and regulations
 - Policies and findings





Board Structure

- Three Boards

Game

Conservation and
development of
game resources

Fisheries

Conservation and
development of
fisheries
resources

Joint
Board

Subsistence
areas, advisory
committees,
board process

Board Purpose

- Established for the purpose of conservation and development – AS 16.05.221



2013 Joint Board Meeting, Board of Fish (F) and Game (G) members from left to right: Bob Mumford (G), Orville Huntington (F), Reed Morisky (F), Sue Jeffrey (F), Tom Kluberton (F), John Jensen (F), Karl Johnstone (F), Nick Yurko (G), Ted Spraker (G), Teresa Sager Albaugh (G), Stosh Hoffman (G), Fritz Johnson (F), Nick Probasco (G). Not pictured: Nate Turner (G).

Board Purpose

- Duties include – AS 16.05.251
 - Creation of reserves, refuges, sanctuaries
 - Open/closed seasons
 - Set quotas, bag limits, harvest levels
 - Means and methods of capture
 - Markings and id requirements for means used in pursuit
 - Classifying fisheries (sport, commercial, subsistence, personal use)
 - Habitat improvements/protection



Board Purpose (cont.)

- Duties include – AS 16.05.251
 - Analyzing and controlling disease, predation
 - Regulating transport/protection of native or exotic fish
 - Harvest of aquatic plants
 - Rules around licenses, permits
 - Use of observers
 - Establishing exclusive use areas
 - Reporting requirements of unlicensed vessels
 - Promoting fishing/preserving fishing heritage





Board Composition

- 7-members – appointed by Governor, confirmed by full Legislature
- Members shall be appointed on the basis of –
 - “interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership.”

2014/2015 Board members (currently 6)

Tom Kluberton, Chair, Talkeetna

John Jensen, Vice-Chair, Petersburg

Orville Huntington, Huslia

Sue Jeffrey, Kodiak

Reed Morisky, Fairbanks

Fritz Johnson, Dillingham



Proposal Process

- Call for Proposals
- Distribution of Proposals
- Public Review and Comment
- Board Regulatory Meeting
- Implementation



Proposal Form

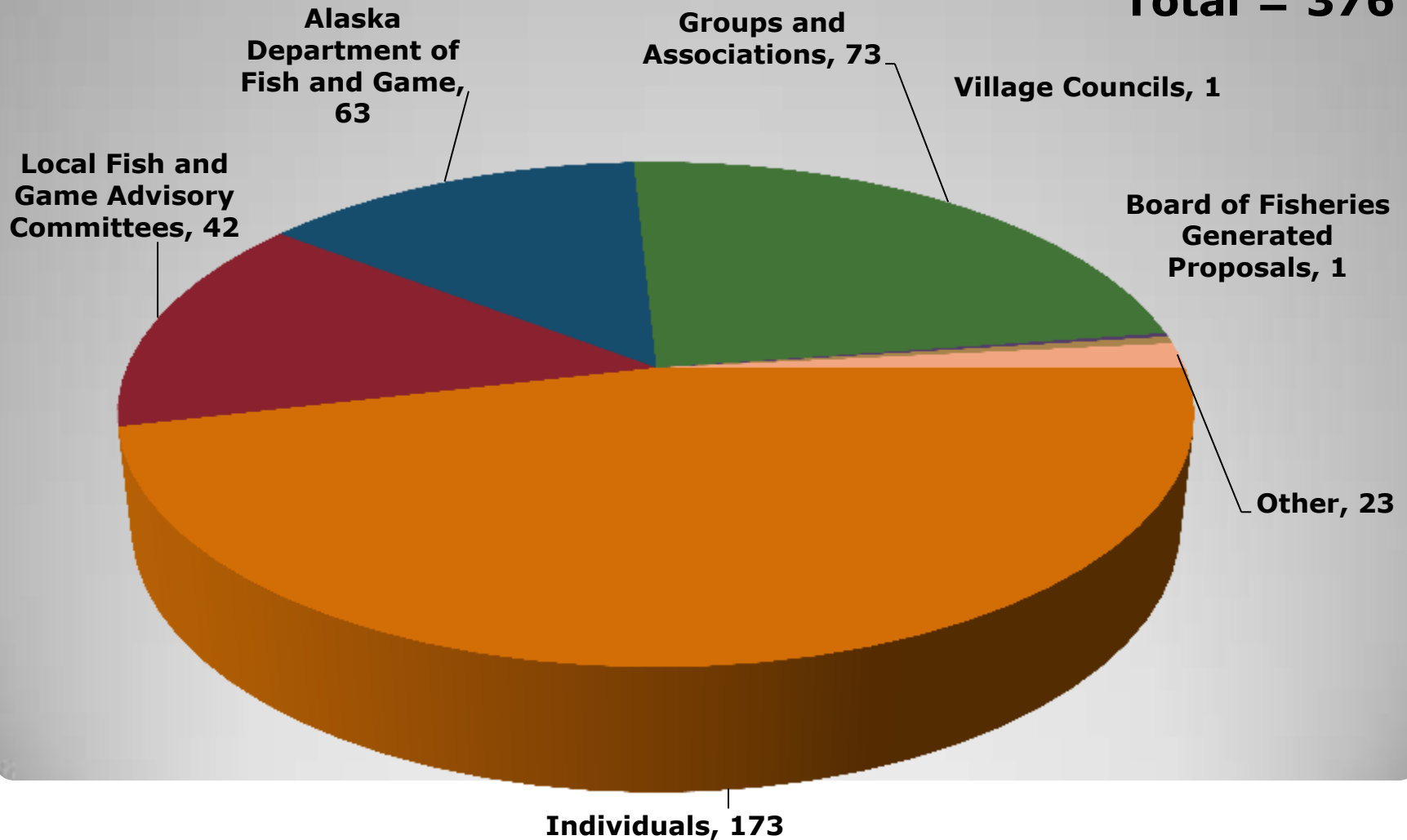
- Typically due April 10 of each year.
- Up to 300 – 400 proposals a year.

| ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM 2014-2015 PO BOX 115526, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-5526 | | |
|---|---------------------|------------------|
| <i>*Indicates a required field</i> | | |
| BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Subsistence <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Use <input type="checkbox"/> Sport <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | | |
| *Which meeting would you like to submit your proposal to? <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prince William Sound and Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Finfish </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Misc. Shellfish (including Dungeness, King and Tanner) </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast and Yakutat Finfish (including salmon, herring, groundfish) </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Dungeness Crab, Shrimp, Misc. Shellfish (except Southeast and Yakutat) and Supplemental Issues </div> </div> | | |
| Please answer all questions to the best of your ability. All answers will be printed in the proposal book along with the proposer's name (address and phone numbers will not be published). Use separate forms for each proposal. Address only one issue per proposal. State the issue clearly and concisely. The board will reject multiple or confusing items. | | |
| 1. Alaska Administrative Code Number 5 AAC _____ | | |
| *2. What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? | | |
| *3. What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say? (Please provide draft regulatory language, if possible.) | | |
| *Submitted By: _____ <div style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black; width: 100%;">Individual or Group</div> | | |
| *Address | *City, State | *ZIP Code |
| *Home Phone | *Work Phone | *Email |



2013/2014 Sources of Proposals

Total = 376





Board of Fisheries Meeting Cycle

- 2014/2015 (2017/2018, 2020/2021 ...)
 - Prince William Sound finfish, Southeast and Yakutat finfish and crab, Statewide Dungeness and other shellfish
- 2015-2016 (2018/2019, 2021/2022 ...)
 - Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands/Chignik, Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim, Bristol Bay, and Statewide finfish
- 2016/2017 (2019/2020, 2022/2023 ...)
 - Lower and Upper Cook Inlet, and Kodiak finfish, and Statewide King and Tanner Crab



The Typical Meeting

- Introductions, ethics disclosures
- Department Staff Reports
- Public Testimony
- Committees (small and COTW)
- Deliberations
- Miscellaneous Business

All elements of building a clear record

* board findings #2000-200-FB and #2000-199-FB describe committee process

Sources of Public Input

- General public
- Industry, associations
- Local, state, federal governments
- Tribal governments and village councils
- Legislators
- Fish and Game Advisory Committees (84 statewide)





Local Fish and Game Advisory Committees

Southeast (23 advisory committees)

Angoon•Craig•East Prince of Wales Island•Edna Bay•Elfin Cove•Hydaburg•Hyder•Icy Straits•Juneau-Douglas•Kake
•Ketchikan•Klawock• Klukwan•Pelican•Petersburg•Port Alexander•Saxman•Sitka•Sumner Strait•Tenakee Springs•Upper Lynn
Canal•Wrangell•Yakutat

Southcentral (19 advisory committees)

Anchorage•Central Peninsula • Cooper Landing•Copper Basin•Copper River/Prince William
Sound•Denali•Homer•Kenai/Soldotna•Matanuska Valley•Mt. Yenlo•Paxson•Prince William Sound/Valdez•Seldovia•Seward•Susitna
Valley •Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road•Tyonek•Whittier

Southwest (12 advisory committees)

•Chignik•False Pass•King Cove•Kodiak•Lake Iliamna•Lower Bristol Bay•
Naknek/Kvichak•Nelson Lagoon•Nushagak•Sand Point•Togiak•Unalaska/Dutch Harbor

Interior (15 advisory committees)

Central•Delta•Eagle•Fairbanks•Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk and Holy Cross
(G.A.S.H.)•Koyukuk•Lake Minchumina•McGrath•Middle Nenana River•Middle Yukon
River•Minto/Nenana•Ruby•Tanana/Rampart/Manly•Upper Tanana/Forty Mile•Yukon Flats

Arctic (9 advisory committees)

•Kotzebue•Lower Kobuk•Noatak/Kivalina•Northern Norton Sound•Northern Seward
Peninsula•North Slope•St Lawrence Island•Southern Norton Sound•Upper Kobuk

Western (7 advisory committees)

Bethel•Central Bering Sea•Central Kuskokwim•Coastal Lower Yukon•Lower
Kuskokwim•Mid-Lower Yukon•Stony-Holitsna

Alaska's 84 Advisory Committees



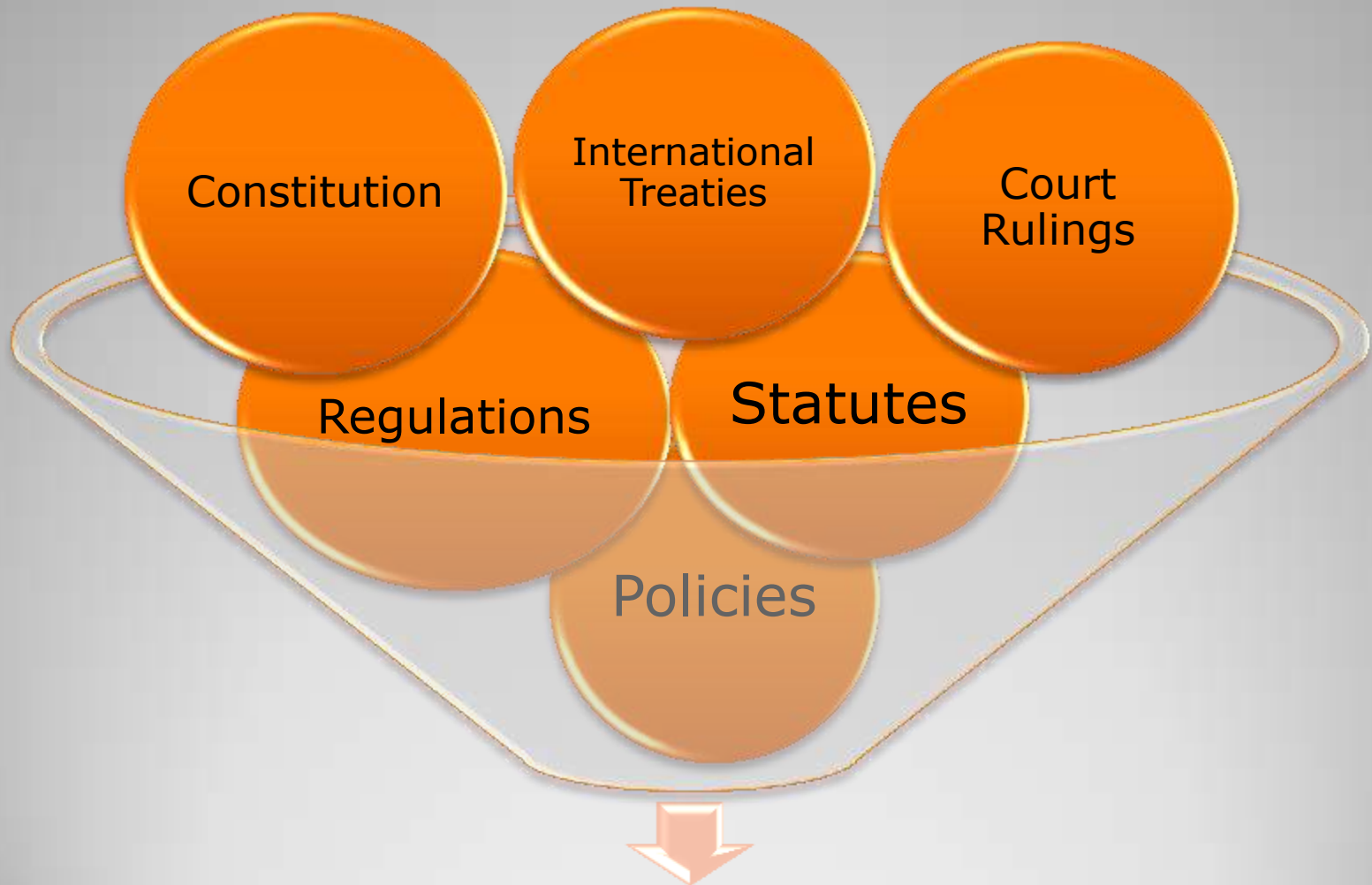
Agency Input



- Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
- Dept. of Law
- Dept. Public Safety/Alaska Wildlife Troopers
- Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission
- North Pacific Fishery Management Council
(federal)
- Office of Subsistence Management (federal)



Legal Framework for Decisions



Board Decisions



Alaska Constitution

Article 8, Section 4

“Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses”

(Article 8, Section 4)



Alaska Statutes

- Board of Fisheries Authority (AS 16.05.221; AS 16.05.251)

“Conservation and Development”

- Powers and Duties of the Commissioner (AS 16.05.050)
- Alaska Administrative Procedures Act (AS 44.62)
- Open Meetings Act (AS 44.62.310)
- Executive Branch Ethics Act (AS 39.52)





More Alaska Statutes

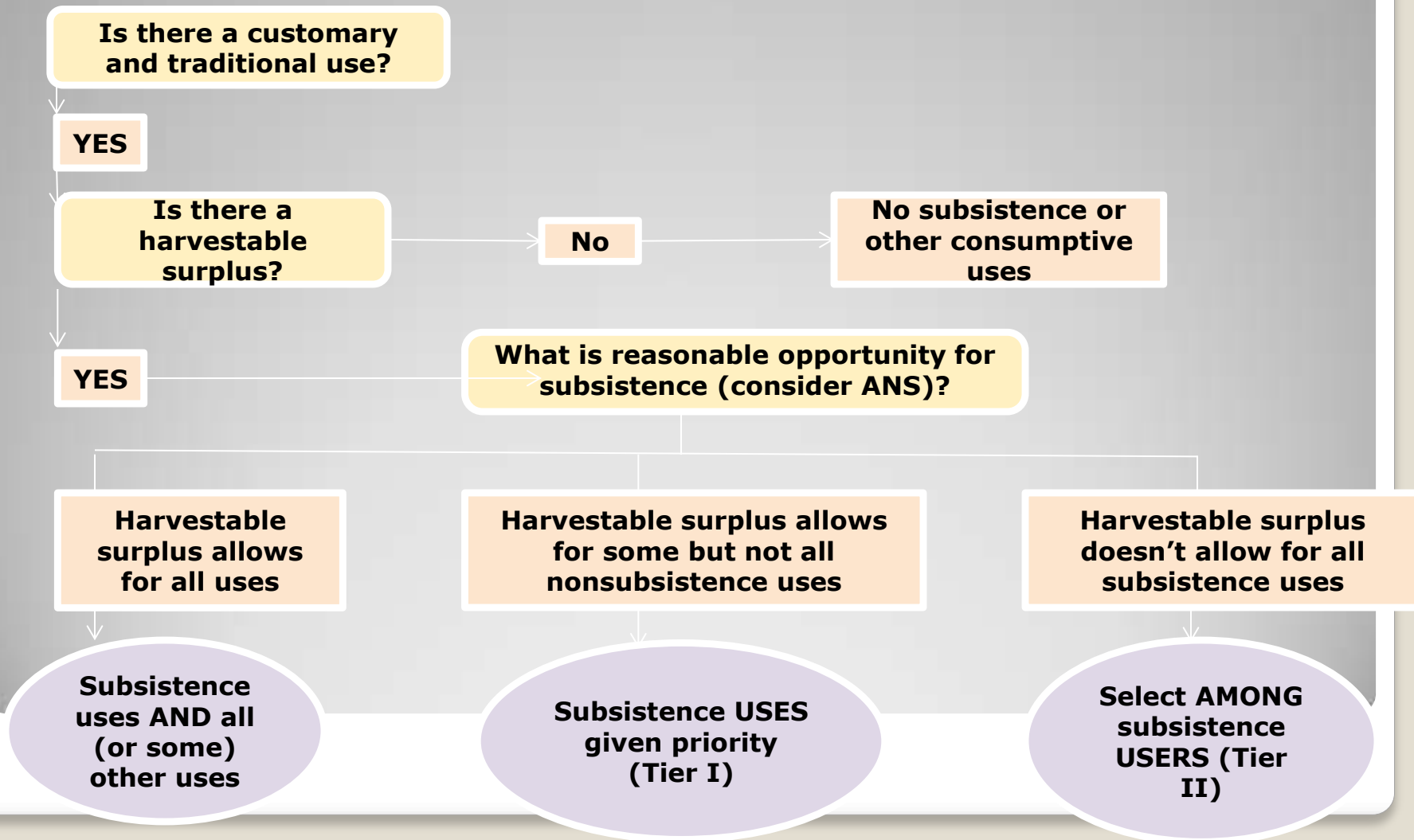
- Allocation Criteria (AS 16.05.251(e) and #91-129-FB)
 - history of each fishery
 - number of participants
 - importance for personal and family consumption
 - availability of alternative resources
 - importance in local, regional, and state economy
 - importance for providing recreational opportunity
- Management of Wild and Enhanced Stocks (AS 16.05.730)
- State Subsistence Law (AS 16.05.258)





Subsistence Determinations

- Steps when reviewing subsistence regulations





Board Regulations and Policies

- Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy (5 AAC 39.222)
- Escapement Goal Policy (5 AAC 39.223)
- Mixed Stock Salmon Fisheries (5 AAC 39.220 and #93-145-FB)
- Emerging Fisheries (5 AAC 39.210)



see list of all board findings at
<http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/fishinfo/regs/pfindx.php>



Procedures for Out-of-Cycle Actions

- Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Request
- Joint Board Emergency Petition Policy
- Subsistence Proposal Policy
- Category 2 measures in BS/AI King/Tanner Crab Fishery

Getting Involved

- Board's email list
- Written comments on proposals
- Proposal submission
- Attend Board meetings and present testimony
- Join or attend your local F&G advisory committee
- Join an industry or stakeholder group



Thank You



Questions