

Chair:

Rep. Dan Ortiz Capitol Room 513 465-3824

Members:

Rep. Louise Stutes Capitol Room406 465-2487

Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins Capitol Room 411 465-3732

Rep. Geran Tarr Capitol Room 126 465-3793

Rep. David Eastman Capitol Room 114 465-2186

Rep. Mark Neuman Capitol Room 104 465-2679

Rep. Mike Chenault Capitol Room 434 465-3779

Committee Aide:

Liz Harpold 465-5269

30th Alaska State Legislature House Finance Budget Subcommittee Department of Fish & Game FY19 Operating Budget

February 20, 2018

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

The House Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Fish & Game held six meetings with the department during the review of the FY19 budget request.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The House Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Fish & Game recommends that the House Finance Committee accept the Department of Fish & Game's FY19 budget with the following amendment recommendations:

The numbers-only budget with amendment recommendations totals:

Fund Source: (dollars are in thousands)

Unrestricted General Funds (UGF)	\$51,506.1
Designated General Funds (DGF)	13,562.5
Other Funds	65,919.3
Federal Funds	66,922.0
Total	\$197,909.9

The Unrestricted General Fund difference from FY15 Management Plan to the FY19 House Subcommittee Recommended budget is a reduction of \$27,881.7, a decrease of 35.1 percent.

The Unrestricted General Fund difference from FY18 Management Plan to the FY19 House Subcommittee Recommended budget is an increase of \$989.7, an increase of 2 percent.

Positions:

7
1,456

GOVERNOR'S AMENDMENTS

The Governor did not submit any amendments for this agency.

SUBCOMMITTEE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

The following budget amendment is submitted by the subcommittee for consideration by the House Finance Committee:

One amendment was submitted adding a total of \$997.0 UGF to Commercial Fisheries to fund 11 projects to the following allocations:

Southeast Region Fisheries Management – add 131.0 UGF Central Region Fisheries Management – add 161.0 UGF Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Region Fisheries Management – add 465.0 UGF Westward Region Fisheries Management – add 240.0 UGF

OTHER INFORMATION

Securing and managing Pittman-Robertson Funds was discussed as an area worth further exploration.

ATTACHED REPORTS (House Structure, Numbers Only)

Transaction Detail – House Structure - Subcommittee Recommended Amendments Allocation Summary
Multi-Year Allocation Summary

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Ortiz, Chair

House Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Fish & Game

Numbers and Language

* Allocation Total *

Agency: Department of Fish and Game

0.0

0.0

0 0 0

	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
Commercial Fisheries												
Southeast Region Fisheries Management												
H DFG 1 - Herring	Inc	131.0	131.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Assessment/Management and Sablefish Assess	ments											
Offered by Representative Ortiz												
SEAK - Southeast Alaska Herring Assessn	nent/Ma	nagement	(\$81.0)									
The department has historically conducted	full ass	essment or	nine herrin	g								
spawning aggregates in Southeast Alaska.	In rece	ent years di	ue to budget	cuts								
the number of areas that have been assess	sed has	been redu	ced to two a	reas								
(Sitka Sound and Craig-Klawock). There a	re three	basic requ	uirements for	r full								
assessment for a given herring spawning a	ggrega	te. They ar	e aerial sur	eys to								
map spawn, biological sampling, and dive	surveys	that collect	t egg density	/								
information. This increment would reinstate		•										
(West Behm, Kah Shakes Cat-Island, Erne												
Inlet, and Hoonah Sound), reinstate dive sp		•	•									
areas that were deemed to be most likely to				hold								
required to provide for fisheries, and reinsta		•	•									
(age-weight-length) data for two areas. He	•		•	ed in								
Southeast Alaska unless the spawning ago	regates	are asses	sed.									
SEAK - Chatham Strait Sablefish Assessm	ent (\$5	0.0)										
Chatham Strait sablefish assessments are	current	y funded e	ntirely from t	test								
fish receipts. The receipts are collected du	ring sto	ck assessn	nent longline)								
surveys that are a critical part of our under												
Three commercial vessels are charted to c		•	•									
charter costs are paid using revenue gener			•	en								
during the survey are deducted from the to												
ultimately divided equally to permit holders		•	•	ıl								
funds to support the survey we could allow	more fi	sh to be pro	ovided for									
commercial harvest.												
1004 Gen Fund (UGF) 131.0	-											

131.0

0.0

0.0

0.0

0.0

131.0

Numbers and Language

Agency: Department of Fish and Game

	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
Commercial Fisheries (continued)												
Central Region Fisheries Management H DFG 2 - PWS Tanner crab survey, Togiak herring Assessment and Alagnak Tower Projects	Inc	161.0	161.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0

Offered by Representative Ortiz

CEN - Prince William Sound Tanner Crab Survey (\$50.0)

The Prince William Sound Tanner crab population has historically been monitored using a trawl survey but funding for the project was cut in FY2017. The Alaska Board of Fisheries recently adopted a new Tanner crab management plan for Prince William Sound. The plan provides for commercial fishing opportunity when the estimated biomass of legal sized males exceeds 200,000 crab. The fishery cannot be opened unless the population is assessed. This increment would restore funding for the survey and allow the department to determine whether a commercial fishery is allowed (the fishery has been closed since 1999 due to poor stock health).

CEN - Togiak Herring Assessment (\$61.0)

The Togiak herring fishery is the largest herring fishery in Alaska. There is currently no dedicated funding for the Togiak herring assessment. This increment would provide funds for complete aerial surveys used to document spawning biomass and full biological assessment which provides for the most accurate estimates of abundance.

CEN - Alagnak River Tower (\$50.0)

The Alagnak River is a major tributary of the Kvichak River. It produces significant numbers of sockeye salmon (2018 forecast is for return of 4.4 million fish) and is a very important part of the overall salmon production in Bristol Bay. There is currently no dedicated funding to operate the counting tower in the drainage. The Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted a special harvest area (SHA) management for the Alagnak that requires tower counts as a trigger for potential fishery in the SHA in years when salmon abundance in the river is above the escapement objectives

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)

161.0

Numbers and Language

Agency: Department of Fish and Game

	Trans Type_Ex	Total penditure	Personal Services	Travel_	Services (Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
Commercial Fisheries (continued) Central Region Fisheries Management (co	ontinued)											
* Allocation Total *		161.0	161.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
AYK Region Fisheries Management H DFG 3 - Norton Sound King Crab Trawl	Inc	465.0	465.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0

Chinook N. Marine Survey Projects.

Offered by Representative Ortiz

Survey, Yukon Mainstem Sonar Ops Ext, Juv

AVIC Navier Court Bad King Orals Or

AYK - Norton Sound Red King Crab Survey (\$80.0)

The Norton Sound RKC trawl survey is conducted by the department research vessel R/V Pandalus and has historically been completed in July every three years. There is currently no dedicated funding for this survey. With stable annual funding, the survey would be done annually which would significantly improve stock assessment. Given the current stock assessment frequency, federal regulations require more conservative management and lower allowable catch to accommodate the data uncertainty. Less restrictive allowable catches may be possible under federal regulations if stock assessment uncertainty is improved using more frequent surveys.

AYK - Yukon River Mainstem Sonar Operations Extension (\$85.0)

The Pilot Station sonar project is deployed and counting fish by approximately June 7 each year (river conditions dependent) and operated through August 31. With additional funding, the Pilot Station sonar project would start counting fish a week earlier (June 1 target date) and continue counting fish a week later (September 7 target date). This is expected to provide more accurate Chinook salmon abundance and run timing information (anecdotal information suggests timing in recent years has been earlier than average) and provide more accurate abundance and run timing information on the latter potions of the fall chum and coho runs into September (in some years a small proportion of these species are likely to have continued passing the sonar site after operations have ceased given observed counts on the final day of sonar operations). This increment would also be used to start counting earlier at the Eagle sonar project located just below the Canadian border on a July 1 target date instead of the

Numbers and Language

Agency: Department of Fish and Game

Trans	Total	Persona1				Capital					
Туре	Expenditure _	Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Outlay	Grants	Misc	<u>PFT</u>	PPT	TMP

Commercial Fisheries (continued)

AYK Region Fisheries Management (continued)

H DFG 3 - Norton Sound King Crab Trawl Survey, Yukon Mainstem Sonar Ops Ext, Juv Chinook N. Marine Survey Projects. (continued)

> current July 5 target date. Similar to the benefit of an earlier target start date at Pilot Station sonar this would help to ensure more accurate abundance and run timing information on Chinook salmon passage into Canada, particularly in vears with earlier run timing.

AYK - Juvenile Chinook Northern Marine Survey (\$300.0)

The juvenile Chinook trawl survey takes place in the Bering Sea from Nunivak Island north to the Bering Strait in September each year. For this northern Bering survey, the department charters a large commercial fishing vessel, which costs ~\$13,000 a day. Department staff who are on board examine trawl catch for biological data. Catch data are used to estimate abundance of juvenile Yukon River and Norton Sound salmon, as well as diet, size, condition of the fish, and other factors. These data are used to accurately forecast adult Yukon Chinook run size up to 3 years into the future, enabling better management precision for Yukon salmon during the summer season (Chinook and summer chum), and particularly transboundary stocks under Pacific Salmon Treaty.

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)

* Allocation Total * 465.0 465.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0 0

0.0

0.0

0.0

0.0

0.0

0.0

0

0

240.0

240.0

Inc

Westward Region Fisheries Management

H DFG 4 - Kodiak weirs, Chignik weir,

Kodiak aerial salmon surveys.

Offered by Representative Ortiz

WW - Kodiak Weirs (\$100.0)

Karluk: Currently fish tight ~ May 23 and pulled ~9/14. Right now there is a crew of 2 with a part time FB-I. With increment weir would be fish tight May 23 but pulled 9/24 and back to a crew of 3 technicians. This would the FB-I to move around between weirs and ensure consistent field camp operations. This

Numbers and Language

Agency: Department of Fish and Game

Trans Total Personal Capital
<u>Type Expenditure Services Travel Services Commodities Outlay Grants Misc PFT PPT TM</u>

Commercial Fisheries (continued)

Westward Region Fisheries Management (continued)

H DFG 4 - Kodiak weirs, Chignik weir,

Kodiak aerial salmon surveys. (continued)

could provide more late-run sockeye and coho opportunity.

Dog Salmon: Currently fish tight ~ May 25 and pulled ~8/7. Right now there is a crew of 2. With increment weir would be fish tight May 23 but pulled 8/20. This could provide more sockeye, pink, and coho salmon opportunity.

Ayakulik: Currently fish tight ~ May 24 and pulled ~8/24. Right now there is a crew of 2. With increment weir would be fish tight May 23 but pulled 9/15 and back to a crew of 3 technicians. This could provide more late-run sockeye and coho opportunity.

Upper Station currently fish tight ~ May 24 and pulled ~9/11. Right now there is a crew of 2. With increment weir would be fish tight May 23 but pulled 9/20. This could provide more late-run sockeye and coho opportunity.

WW - Chignik Weir (\$100.0)

The Chignik River weir is the most important salmon stock assessment project in the Chignik Management Area. Daily weir counts are monitored inseason and used directly to determine commercial fishing opportunity. There is currently no dedicated funding for late season operation of the weir. The department does have soft-funding (AKSSF) to cover late season operations for the 2018 field season. Future funding options beyond 2018 are uncertain at this time and as of right now in 2019 weir operations would cease August 1st. With the increment, the weir would remain in operation an additional month. The month of August can be a productive part of the run (an average of approximately 1.0 million pounds of sockeye salmon harvested).

WW - Kodiak Aerial Salmon Surveys (\$40.0)

The current aerial survey budget for the Kodiak Management Area (KMA) is \$20.0. It takes 20 hours to fly the entire KMA or \$11.0 (\$550/hr). With additional

Numbers and Language

	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel _	Services	<u>Commodities</u>	Capital Outlay	Grants	<u>Misc</u>	PFT	PPT	_TMP
Commercial Fisheries (continued)												
Westward Region Fisheries Management (co	ontinu	ıed)										
H DFG 4 - Kodiak weirs, Chignik weir,												
Kodiak aerial salmon surveys. (continued)												
\$40K in aerial survey budget the departmen	it would	d be able to	fly more ear	rly								
sockeye salmon buildup surveys. This will a			•									
sockeye systems in June. The department v			•									
more frequently. Specifically, there could be		•										
Peninsula mainland streams later in season		•										
fishing opportunity on chum and coho salmo	on later	in the sea	son.									
1004 Gen Fund (UGF) 240.0 * Allocation Total *	_	240.0	240.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
						***		***		U	U	U
* * Appropriation Total * *		997.0	997.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
* * * Agency Total * * *		997.0	997.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
* * * * All Agencies Total * * * *		997.0	997.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0

2018 Legislature - Operating Budget Allocation Summary - House Structure

Numbers and Language

Allocation	[1] 19GovAdj	[2] HSub Rec	[2] - [1] 19GovAdj to HSub Rec
Commercial Fisheries			
SE Region Fisheries Mgmt.	12,831.8	12,962.8	131.0 1.0 %
Central Region Fisheries Mgmt.	10,721.6	10,882.6	161.0 1.5 %
AYK Region Fisheries Mgmt.	9,489.5	9,954.5	465.0 4.9 %
Westward Region Fisheries Mgmt	13,997.4	14,237.4	240.0 1.7 %
Statewide Fisheries Mgmt.	18,649.2	18,649.2	0.0
Commercial Fish Entry Commiss	3,315.4	3,315.4	0.0
Appropriation Total	69,004.9	70,001.9	997.0 1.4 %
Sport Fisheries			
Sport Fisheries	41,448.6	41,448.6	0.0
Sport Fish Hatcheries	5,767.5	5,767.5	0.0
Appropriation Total	47,216.1	47,216.1	0.0
Wildlife Conservation			
Wildlife Conservation	47,223.4	47,223.4	0.0
WC Special Projects	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hunter Ed Pub Shooting Ranges	916.9	916.9	0.0
Appropriation Total	48,140.3	48,140.3	0.0
Statewide Support Services			
Commissioner's Office	1,325.6	1,325.6	0.0
Administrative Services	11,645.0	11,645.0	0.0
Boards of Fisheries and Game	1,255.8	1,255.8	0.0
Advisory Committees	522.8	522.8	0.0
Habitat	5,506.7	5,506.7	0.0
State Subsistence Research	5,302.6	5,302.6	0.0
EVOS Trustee Council	2,392.3	2,392.3	0.0
State Facilities Maintenance	5,100.8	5,100.8	0.0
Appropriation Total	33,051.6	33,051.6	0.0

2018 Legislature - Operating Budget Allocation Summary - House Structure

Numbers and Language

Allocation	[1] 19GovAdj	[2] HSub Rec	[2] - [1] 19GovAdj to HSub Red
Agency Total	197,412.9	198,409.9	997.0 0.5 %
Funding Summary			
Unrestricted General (UGF)	50,509.1	51,506.1	997.0 2.0 %
Designated General (DGF)	13,562.5	13,562.5	0.0
Other State Funds (Other)	66,419.3	66,419.3	0.0
Federal Receipts (Fed)	66,922.0	66,922.0	0.0

Multi-year Allocation Summary - Operating Budget - FY 2019 House Structure

Numbers and Language

Allocation	ID=> Session=> Column=>	[1] 2015 15MgtPln	[2] 2018 18MgtPln	[3] 2018 19GovAdj	[4] 2018 HSub Rec	2015 15MgtPln to	[4] - [1] 2018 HSub Rec	2018 18MgtPln to	[4] - [2] 2018 HSub Rec	[/ 2018 19GovAdj to	1] - [3] 2018 HSub Rec
Commercial Fisheries											
SE Region Fisheries M	gmt.	10,200.1	13,653.7	12,831.8	12,962.8	2,762.7	27.1 %	-690.9	-5.1 %	131.0	1.0 %
Central Region Fisherie	es Mgmt.	9,524.1	11,598.5	10,721.6	10,882.6	1,358.5	14.3 %	-715.9	-6.2 %	161.0	1.5 %
AYK Region Fisheries I	Mgmt.	8,540.1	9,870.2	9,489.5	9,954.5	1,414.4	16.6 %	84.3	0.9 %	465.0	4.9 %
Westward Region Fishe	eries Mgmt	10,831.3	14,313.8	13,997.4	14,237.4	3,406.1	31.4 %	-76.4	-0.5 %	240.0	1.7 %
Statewide Fisheries Mg	mt.	13,194.6	19,407.6	18,649.2	18,649.2	5,454.6	41.3 %	-758.4	-3.9 %	0.0	
Comm Fish Special Pro	ojects	20,825.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	-20,825.6	-100.0 %	0.0		0.0	
Comm Fish Unallocated	d Approp	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	
Commercial Fish Entry	Commiss	4,520.2	3,457.4	3,315.4	3,315.4	-1,204.8	-26.7 %	-142.0	-4.1 %	0.0	
Appropriation Total		77,636.0	72,301.2	69,004.9	70,001.9	-7,634.1	-9.8 %	-2,299.3	-3.2 %	997.0	1.4 %
Sport Fisheries											
Sport Fisheries		42,827.9	41,370.0	41,448.6	41,448.6	-1,379.3	-3.2 %	78.6	0.2 %	0.0	
Sport Fish Hatcheries		5,974.1	5,762.3	5,767.5	5,767.5	-206.6	-3.5 %	5.2	0.1 %	0.0	
Unallocated Reduction		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	
Appropriation Total		48,802.0	47,132.3	47,216.1	47,216.1	-1,585.9	-3.2 %	83.8	0.2 %	0.0	
Wildlife Conservation											
Wildlife Conservation		34,217.7	33,985.5	47,223.4	47,223.4	13,005.7	38.0 %	13,237.9	39.0 %	0.0	
WC Special Projects		12,520.7	13,149.6	0.0	0.0	-12,520.7	-100.0 %	-13,149.6	-100.0 %	0.0	
Unallocated Reduction		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	
Hunter Ed Pub Shooting	g Ranges	900.2	913.9	916.9	916.9	16.7	1.9 %	3.0	0.3 %	0.0	
Appropriation Total		47,638.6	48,049.0	48,140.3	48,140.3	501.7	1.1 %	91.3	0.2 %	0.0	
Statewide Support Services	S										
Commissioner's Office		1,896.5	1,395.4	1,325.6	1,325.6	-570.9	-30.1 %	-69.8	-5.0 %	0.0	
Administrative Services	;	12,651.5	11,624.1	11,645.0	11,645.0	-1,006.5	-8.0 %	20.9	0.2 %	0.0	
Boards and Advisory Co	ommittees	1,960.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1,960.5	-100.0 %	0.0		0.0	
Boards of Fisheries and	d Game	0.0	1,320.8	1,255.8	1,255.8	1,255.8	>999 %	-65.0	-4.9 %	0.0	
Advisory Committees		0.0	548.4	522.8	522.8	522.8	>999 %	-25.6	-4.7 %	0.0	
Habitat		6,835.3	5,781.2	5,506.7	5,506.7	-1,328.6	-19.4 %	-274.5	-4.7 %	0.0	

Multi-year Allocation Summary - Operating Budget - FY 2019 House Structure

Numbers and Language

Allocation	ID=> Session=> Column=>	[1] 2015 15MgtPln	[2] 2018 18MgtPln	[3] 2018 19GovAdj	[4] 2018 HSub Rec	2015 15MgtPln to	[4] - [1] 2018 HSub Rec	[2018 18MgtPln to	[4] - [2] 2018 <u>HSub Rec</u>	[2018 19GovAdj to	4] - [3] 2018 HSub Rec
Statewide Support Services ((continued)										
State Subsistence Resea	rch	7,729.0	5,565.1	5,302.6	5,302.6	-2,426.4	-31.4 %	-262.5	-4.7 %	0.0	
EVOS Trustee Council		2,492.4	2,518.2	2,392.3	2,392.3	-100.1	-4.0 %	-125.9	-5.0 %	0.0	
State Facilities Maintenar	nce	5,100.8	5,100.8	5,100.8	5,100.8	0.0		0.0		0.0	
F&G State Facilities Rent	:	2,530.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2,530.0	-100.0 %	0.0		0.0	
Appropriation Total		41,196.0	33,854.0	33,051.6	33,051.6	-8,144.4	-19.8 %	-802.4	-2.4 %	0.0	
Agency Total		215,272.6	201,336.5	197,412.9	198,409.9	-16,862.7	-7.8 %	-2,926.6	-1.5 %	997.0	0.5 %
Funding Summary											
Unrestricted General (UG	GF)	79,387.8	50,516.4	50,509.1	51,506.1	-27,881.7	-35.1 %	989.7	2.0 %	997.0	2.0 %
Designated General (DGI	F)	9,018.7	14,897.5	13,562.5	13,562.5	4,543.8	50.4 %	-1,335.0	-9.0 %	0.0	
Other State Funds (Other	-)	63,153.0	68,903.1	66,419.3	66,419.3	3,266.3	5.2 %	-2,483.8	-3.6 %	0.0	
Federal Receipts (Fed)		63,713.1	67,019.5	66,922.0	66,922.0	3,208.9	5.0 %	-97.5	-0.1 %	0.0	

Column Definitions

15MgtPln (FY15 Management Plan) - Authorized level of expenditures at the beginning of FY15 plus position adjustments and transfers (made at an agency's discretion) within appropriations.

18MgtPln (FY18 Management Plan) - Authorized level of expenditures at the beginning of FY18 plus position adjustments and transfers (made at an agency's discretion) within appropriations.

19GovAdj (FY19 Governor w/LFD Adjust) - FY19 Governor's Request with LFD Adjustments for proposed legislation and budget actions that require a supermajority vote.

HSub Rec (House Subcom Recommend) - House Finance Subcommittee Recommendations to the House Finance Committee.