

# YOU can have a say in fish, game regs

by Martha Ramoth  
ADF&G Division of Boards

**KOTZEBUE** — Did you know that you can help make fish and game regulations?

The State of Alaska provides for the public to be involved in fish and game regulatory processes, and you can write proposals either individually or with your local fish and game advisory committee. Advisory committees are intended to provide a local forum on fish and wildlife issues and to provide for local input into the regulatory process of the Boards of Fisheries and Game.

Proposals are submitted to the State Board of Fisheries or Board of Game — the state regulatory authorities that pass regulations to conserve and develop Alaska's wildlife and fisheries resources.

Each board has seven members appointed by the governor and confirmed by a joint session of the Legislature.

How can you make your advisory committee work effectively? Find out who your representatives are. Talk to them about fish and game related issues. Provide them with ideas and support their efforts.

After all, they are volunteers and put in long hours and sometimes even years serving your communities. If your community has not been active, help it become active by getting involved.

Your community selects a representative to serve on your local fish and game advisory committee. Your advisory committee's representative can present any fish and game regulation problems or suggestions your community may have.

At least twice a year, each board solicits proposed changes for certain portions of the regulations. You can pick up a blank regulation proposal form at an Alaska Department of Fish and Game office.

It is important to find out from the ADF&G office what proposals will come up for discussion that particular year and the deadline for submitting a proposal. Talk to as many people as you can about your proposals — friends, biologists and local advisory

committee members.

Fill out the proposal form as completely as you can, then submit your proposal before the deadline. The address is on the blank form. You can also find out when the local advisory committee will discuss the proposal

and, if possible, you should plan to attend the meeting.

For more information regarding fish or game regulations, the Division of Boards or if you have any inquiries regarding your advisory committee in the Arctic region, for the North Slope Borough, Kotzebue and Nome area,

contact me at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Box 689, Kotzebue, 99752; or call 800-478-3420.

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