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I am Paul Beans from Mountain Village on the Yukon River. I am a commercial and subsistence fisherman. I enjoy the country very much and am out there whenever possible to hunt and fish. I am on the Mountain Village Working Group and also just recently have been appointed to serve on the Lower Yukon Fish & Game Advisory Committee. I am very proud to be placed there to serve on behalf of the people of the Lower Yukon River.

Many of you know Harry Wilde Sr. of Mountain Village. Back in 2007 during a joint meeting of the three entities Harry told the committee that he needs help with dealing with Fish & Game, Fish & Wildlife Service, the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and Federal Subsistence Board issues that affect our way of life in the lower Yukon. He told the committee that he is getting tired. He had been dealing with those issues with a few others serving the people of the lower Yukon.

The Mountain Village Working Group was formed in 2007 and the first ever meeting that the Working Group was the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and the first ever to testify on behalf of the Working Group and the people of the Yukon River were from Mountain Village in December 2007. Since that time the Working Group has been very active in Board of Fisheries, Federal Subsistence Board, Fish & Wildlife Service meetings around the State of Alaska.

During a Lower Yukon Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting in Marshall, Alaska a few years ago, we got the idea from Sherry Wright that we can actually become an advisory committee by incorporating twenty five (25) people's signatures and submitting a proposal to the Joint Board and we have done that. The time has finally come for us to be representatives testifying before the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game to support Proposal 5. We at Mountain Village would like to be recognized as the Mountain Village Fish & Game Advisory Committee.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

  
Paul Beans

Mountain Village Working Group