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#### **January 8 and 9, 2014**

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am on January 8, recessed for lunch at 1:00pm, resumed at 2:00pm, and recessed for the day at 5:00pm. The meeting resumed on January 9 at 10:00am, recessed at 12:00pm, resumed shortly after 1:00pm and adjourned at 5:20pm. Total meeting time was just under 12.5 hours. A quorum was maintained throughout the meeting with a maximum of nine and a minimum of 8 seated members present for votes.

### **AGENDA ITEMS:**

#### **Presentations**

- Kuskokwim River Chinook Salmon Forecasting
- Kuskokwim River 2014 Preliminary Management Strategy

#### Management Recommendations from the Working Group with Public Input

- Recent Letters to the Working Group
  - o KNA Letter
  - o Letter from Zachariah "Chuck" Chaliak
- Working Group Discussion

Response from ADF&G

**Update on the Chinook Initiative** 

<u>WORKING GROUP ACTION ITEMS:</u> these items were not called "action items" at the time of meeting. During the course of the meeting, individuals were asked or offered to accomplish these tasks.

- 1. Complete Emergency Petition to the Alaska Board of Fish to allow the use of dipnets in the subsistence salmon fishery.- Dave Canon
- 2. Complete Emergency Petition to the Alaska Board of Fish to allow the reduction of net length to 25 fathoms in the subsistence fishery. *Dave Canon*
- 3. Draft a letter of endorsement to the NPFMC from the Working Group on behalf of Art Nelson's (BSFA) appointment to that body. *Casey Stockdale*
- 4. Provide more information regarding Art Nelson, and the position to which he would be appointed, to Working Group members. *Casey Stockdale*
- 5. Draft a letter from the Working Group to Coastal Villages Region Fund requesting that they consider providing 4-inch and 6-inch mesh to Kuskokwim Fishers. *Casey Stockdale*

# WORKING GROUP MOTIONS: For full verbiage and description of motions, see the section on Motions, starting on page 4.

- 1. To approve the agenda as it appears. Motion Passed.
- 2. To accept the "objectives" defined by the letter from Kuskokwim Native Association to the Working Group (December 23, 2013). Motion Passed.
- 3. To adopt selected guidelines and assumptions from the letter from Kuskokwim Native Association to the Working Group (December 23, 2013). Of the 7 items listed in the letter, the Working Group reached consensus to accept four at that time. Motion passed.
- 4. To accept the presented "Kuskokwim River 2014 Preliminary Management Strategy" with amendments. Motion Failed.
- 5. To adopt the preliminary management strategy [with further amendments]. Motion Passed.
- 6. The 2014 fishing schedule would be developed with public input to: 1) Provide some opportunity for a taste of king salmon in the early part of the season, 2) Provide some opportunity for other salmon

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species in the later part of June, and 3) Provide other opportunity for other species in July. Motion Passed.

- 7. Regarding the draft Emergency Petition before the Working Group, intended for the Board of Fish in support of adopting dip nets as a potentially legal subsistence salmon gear for the Kuskokwim River; the motion was "to support the first paragraph… describing the purpose"… of the letter, with an amendment; Motion Passed.
- 8. The Working Group supports requesting the Alaska Board of Fish to consider an Emergency Petition to add the additional gear limitation of 25 fathoms net length [for the purpose of king salmon conservation]. Motion Passed.
- 9. That both of these letters [afore mentioned Emergency Petitions] be submitted by the Working Group, as revised by the co-chairs. Motion Passed.
- 10. To draft a letter in support of Art Nelson's appointment to the NPFMC. Motion Passed.
- 11. For the working group to send a letter to CVRF to consider providing 4-inch and 6-inch mesh to Kuskokwim Fishers. Motion Passed.

### PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: January 8, 2014:

- 1) Tim Andrews of AVCP spoke in support of the Emergency Petitions and alternative plans suggested by interested parties that (discussed later in the meeting), and voicing some concerns that should be addressed. Tim also spoke in support of a suggested modification to the proposed fishing schedule presented at the end of part 2 of the meeting informational packet. Finally, Tim reminded the Working Group that all the data was extremely important for evaluating management strategies and urged the group to question the presentations and the quality of the data used in assessments.
- 2) Dwayne Hoffman spoke on behalf of the city of Kalskag. He asked that the city be added to the distribution list for Working Group materials. He also said that Kalskag recognizes the need to conserve king salmon and would abide by closures, but that in 2013 he felt the closures had been implemented too late and unfairly. He also said that he felt that the radio programs on KYUK regarding salmon issues were not long enough to allow everyone to call in and be heard.
- 3) John Andrew, speaking for the village of Kwethluk, said that many fishermen were not happy with the proposed fishing schedule for the coming season. They would like to see at least one more period within the month of June to provide opportunity for king salmon harvest.

### PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: January 9, 2014:

- 1) Kevin Gusty of Stony River sent an email to Mark Leary in which he stated that fishing was a big part of the lives of people in that area, but they would forgo fishing for a season if it meant they could have fish in the future. Mark thought this was very profound coming from someone with very limited access to non-subsistence based food sources.
- 2) Jeff Sanders of Bethel requested that the public be allowed to participate in the discussion during this meeting as they had been allowed the previous day.
- 3) Jimmy Andrews of Kwethluk requested that fishing schedules include one full day of fishing for all users during the 2014 season. He also requested that commercial and guided sport fishing be closed, and that any sport fishing allowed should be limited to single barbless hooks/lures.
- 4) Martin Andrew of Kwethluk said that people would like to see a full 8-10 hour opening for subsistence fishing in 2014. Martin referenced the high prices of gas and the desire to get the most out of money spent on subsistence.
- 5) Robert Lekander (ONC Subsistence Board) stated that it was important not to be greedy and think about other people. He said he had doubts about longer openings because if everyone goes out on the

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river at once, they would stop all the fish. Robert expressed frustration over high seas drift issues. He said that he rides the rail between native customs and following the rules and regulations of Fish and Game. He wondered whether violators would be rescued by ONC and AVCP as they had been in 2012, saying that this was another point of controversy.

- 6) Lisa Feyereisen of Chuathbaluk thanked the state for responding to the king salmon emergency as quickly as it had. She said that her village had called for early notice of what to expect in the coming year and that they had pressed hard for the state to come up with options to discuss at the current meeting. She stated that the village of Chuathbaluk was also willing to forgo fishing in order to preserve Chinook for their grandchildren.
- 7) Wayne Morgan of Aniak stated that the middle river had become used to "restrictions" over the past 8-10 years, and that they were looking forward to another year of restrictions and called for them to be extended beyond the river to the bay. He said he would like to see managers from both agencies attend meetings in area communities. He stressed the importance of getting the message out to the people in the villages.

### **AGENDA ITEMS:**

**PRESENTATIONS:** See the January 8 Informational Packet Part 2 to review presentation materials.

<u>Kuskokwim River Chinook salmon Forecasting:</u> Kevin Schaberg, the Kuskokwim Area head research biologist for ADF&G, provided a requested presentation on forecasting methodology. Kevin walked the group through a number of examples and forecasting models and described how each model is generally evaluated to provide the best forecast possible with the limited data available. Kevin finished his presentation by presenting the 2013 forecast and the rationale behind its selection. Kevin was careful to point out the advantages and disadvantages of the forecasting models that were available. One of his main points included the fact that forecasts are designed to give managers a basic expectation from which to prepare for the coming season, and that they should be used with caution.

<u>2013 Season Review:</u> Travis Elison, the Kuskokwim Area management biologist provided a requested presentation recapping the 2013 Chinook salmon run, and the inseason indices that were used to evaluate the run and make management decisions. Travis discussed the tools used, their strengths and weaknesses, and the ultimate failure of the tools to predict the outcome of the run. He detailed the issues that had emerged in 2013, including the low abundance of kings, the uncertainty in the tools used, and the information that wasn't available at the time (*Informational packet part 2, page 30*). Travis briefly discussed the provisions being taken at that time to prepare for 2014.

<u>Hindcasting:</u> Kevin Schaberg resumed his presentation with a discussion of the evaluation of forecasting models through a process called "hindcasting" in which each model is used to predict a year that has already occurred, and evaluated based on how well it correlated with the outcome. He discussed methods for hindcasting and how each model performed and evaluated them against each other. Kevin concluded by stating that the best performing forecast method available was to use the Prior Year Return as an estimate of the coming return in a given year.

<u>Kuskokwim River 2014 Preliminary Management Strategy:</u> On day two of the meeting, Travis Elison began the management strategy discussion by presenting several types of data to describe the power and efficiency of the Kuskokwim River subsistence fishing fleet. First, Travis presented an estimate of the number of fishing households in each community and for the entire river, based on 2011 subsistence harvest surveys. Second, Travis presented historical commercial catch-per-unit-effort information to show how efficient fishermen in the lower river can be when they concentrate their efforts. This was

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considered a valid approach because 1) most subsistence fishermen in the lower river fish use methods very similar to those used by commercial fishermen in the same area, and 2) a subsistence fishing opening of limited duration would very likely be prosecuted much like a commercial opening. Finally, Travis used subsistence catch calendar information to look at when subsistence harvest generally occurs and peaks in each of several Kuskokwim River villages. This part of the presentation was designed to show the Working Group what level of potential harvest could be expected from a subsistence fishing opening of a given length (hours), in a given area of the river (in each of the established conservation sections), on a given date.

Travis went on to describe a preliminary plan that took these factors into account along with the need to provide subsistence users with some opportunity. The details of the preliminary strategy were discussed by the Working Group and incorporated into Motion 4 (failed) and Motion 5 (passed) on day two of the meeting (*Informational Packet for January 8 Part 2, pgs. 74-75; discussion of Motions 4,5 below*).

# MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WORKING GROUP WITH PUBLIC INPUT: Recommendations from the Working Group appear below in the form of Motions 2, 3, 5-9.

KNA letter: See discussion of Motions 1 and 2 below.

<u>Letter from Zachariah "Chuck" Chaliak</u>: Chuck Chaliak wrote on behalf of the Nunapitchuk City Council. Discussion of this letter was brief, but it was recognized that recommendations from the village were generally complimentary to the management discussion to date. *See the Informational Packet for January 8, Part 1.* 

**RESPONSE FROM ADF&G:** ADF&G thanked the Working Group for its participation in the process, for its thoughtfulness in evaluating the information presented, and its recommendations. The department promised to take all recommendations into account and to meet with the Working Group again to further refine the preliminary management strategy for 2014.

CHINOOK INITIATIVE UPDATE: Kevin Schaberg and Dave Runfola, an ADF&G subsistence resource specialist, gave a brief update on the State of Alaska's initiative to study recent statewide declines in Chinook salmon returns. They described five initiative studies that would begin in the Kuskokwim area in 2014, including three subsistence studies (subsistence harvest rates, traditional ecological knowledge, and a study of changes in subsistence harvest patterns through household interviews), and two salmon research studies (Chinook mark recapture, and aerial (helicopter) escapement surveys on lower Kuskokwim River tributaries). Schaberg told the group that a more in-depth presentation of the Chinook initiative would be provided at the Kuskokwim Interagency meeting to take place in late March. Note: This meeting has since been rescheduled for April 2, 2014.

### **WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:**

## Motion 1: to approve the agenda as it appears. Motion Passed (6 yea, 2 no).

The Working Group discussed rearranging the agenda to move presentations to the end of the meeting in order to get to the management recommendations discussion first. Managers and several Working Group members agreed that, similar to inseason meetings, the presentations would provide context for the recommendation discussion and should be first. A roll call vote decided the approval of the agenda as it was originally presented.

Motion 2: to accept the "objectives" defined by the letter from Kuskokwim Native Association to the Working Group (December 23, 2013): 1. Achieve the management objective of a Basin Wide escapement of 85,000 Chinook salmon, incorporating the uncertainty of Bethel Test Fishery (BTF) data.

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2. Provide reasonable opportunity for harvest of other salmon species. 3. Insure harvest opportunity will be equitable to all subsistence fishers on the Kuskokwim. **Motion Passed (unanimous).** 

During day one of the meeting, the Working Group discussed a letter that it had recently received from KNA (distributed to the Working Group via email on December 30, 2013) urging the group to forward recommendations to fisheries managers at the conclusion of the January 8-9 meeting. The letter included suggested objectives, guidelines, and criteria for those recommendations. On January 8, the Working Group considered and accepted the objectives suggested in the KNA letter.

Motion 3: to adopt selected guidelines and assumptions from the letter from Kuskokwim Native Association to the Working Group (December 23, 2013). Of the 7 items listed in the letter, the Working Group reached consensus to accept the following four at that time: 1. Chinook return will be poor, similar to 2012 & 2013 estimated at approximately 100,000. 2. Escapement will not be met without restricting subsistence harvest. 4. Available surplus is thought to be 12-20K Chinook available only for subsistence harvest. 5. No Chinook harvest will be available for commercial or sport fisheries. Motion passed (unanimous).

Following the passage of Motion 2, discussion of the KNA letter continued. The guidelines and assumptions suggested in the letter were considered. Four of the seven were adopted as part of Motion 3. The suggested guidelines that were not agreed upon/adopted at that time included: 3) The season will begin closed and remain so until certain conditions are met ("conditions" listed as criteria in the KNA letter); 6) BTF data is accurate for determining species composition and to predict run timing of Chinook at Bethel; and 7) BTF data is reasonably accurate but will be used cautiously to project escapement until early data from monitoring projects becomes available.

Motion 4: to accept the presented "Kuskokwim River 2014 Preliminary Management Strategy" with amendments, as follows: •Close king salmon sport fishing. •Tributary subsistence closures Similar to 2011-2013 June 1 – July 25. •The department shall manage/delay the commercial fishery to ensure there is no significant impact on Chinook salmon escapement or allocations of Chinook salmon as a result of incidental harvest in commercial fisheries directed at other species (worded for consistency with the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan 5 AAC 07.365(e)(6)). •Start the season on a subsistence fishing schedule. (—Starting on May 15, the subsistence salmon season will be closed). —Apply closures/fishing periods based on run timing and travel speed. —Fishing periods restricted to 6-inch or less mesh size once chum and sockeye are abundant. —Provide more opportunity (fishing time) in upper river sections. —Cancel scheduled fishing periods if run assessment indicates abundance is not adequate to achieve escapement goals. —Reduce closures if run assessment indicates adequate abundance to achieve escapement goals). Motion Failed (5 yea, 3 No)

During day two of the meeting, the Working Group discussed the preliminary management strategy presented by Travis Elison (*Informational Packet for January 8, Part 2; page 74*). The Working Group developed Motion 4 generally from those points, with two additions: 1) the third bullet of the Motion, regarding the delay of the commercial fishery, was added with instruction from the Working Group that this point would be "worded for consistency with the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan." The intent was to ensure that any prosecution of a commercial fishery would not significantly impact Chinook salmon escapement or subsistence harvest. 2) A date was applied (May 15) to the subsistence closure "early in the season". There was general discussion on what this date would be, and whether it would be solid or based on "ice out." The group eventually settled on 15 May. There was also discussion of whether this closure would be applied for the entire river or would be "rolled" upriver consistent with the

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"rolling closure" scheduling discussed for later in the season. The maker of the motion settled the discussion on Motion 4 to keep the closure date the same for the entire Kuskokwim River.

Motion 5: to adopt the preliminary management strategy as follows (with a change to the first dashed point "starting on May 15...closed in salmon conservation section 1"): •Close king salmon sport fishing. •Tributary subsistence closures Similar to 2011-2013 June 1 – July 25. •The department shall manage/delay the commercial fishery to ensure there is no significant impact on Chinook salmon escapement or allocations of Chinook salmon as a result of incidental harvest in commercial fisheries directed at other species (worded for consistency with the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan 5 AAC 07.365(e)(6)). •Start the season on a subsistence fishing schedule. (—Starting on May 15, the subsistence salmon season will be closed in salmon conservation section 1.) —Apply closures/fishing periods based on run timing and travel speed. —Fishing periods restricted to 6-inch or less mesh size once chum and sockeye are abundant. —Provide more opportunity (fishing time) in upper river sections. — Cancel scheduled fishing periods if run assessment indicates abundance is not adequate to achieve escapement goals.) Motion Passed (6 yea, 2 no).

The Working Group discussed the reason for the failure of Motion 4 and determined that it was based on the application of the closure on May 15 in all sections of the Kuskokwim River. Dissenters commented that the timing of this closure would interfere with subsistence activities surrounding non-salmon species in sections of the river where salmon conservation would not yet be of concern. For example, subsistence fishers in the middle and upper river would be prohibited from pursuing sheefish using nets with a mesh size greater than 4-inch. The impact to traditional harvest of non-salmon species, at a time and place when/where salmon conservation would not be an issue, was considered unacceptable. Motion 5 was very similar to Motion 4, but limited the May 15 closure to the lowest conservation section of the river, with the understanding that closures would be applied in subsequent sections on a schedule.

Motion 6: the 2014 fishing schedule would be developed with public input to: 1) Provide some opportunity for a taste of king salmon in the early part of the season, 2) Provide some opportunity for other salmon species in the later part of June, and 3) Provide other opportunity for other species in July. Motion Passed (unanimous).

Discussion continued regarding application of fishing schedules, including the scheduling of short openings earlier in the season. It was pointed out that if the department could not project a harvestable surplus of Chinook salmon, that there was justification not to allow any opportunity prior to the arrival of chum and sockeye salmon, and that it might not be practicable to schedule an opening prior to receiving some run indices. There was some discussion about how Chinook salmon caught in the Bethel Test Fishery might be distributed between communities to allow people to get a taste of Chinook salmon; including an offer from USFWS to try to help distribute fish. This conversation led to making of Motion 6; which passed without further discussion.

Motion 7: Regarding the draft Emergency Petition before the Working Group intended for the Board of Fish in support of adopting dipnets as a potentially legal subsistence salmon gear for the Kuskokwim River; the motion was "to support the first paragraph... describing the purpose"... of the letter, with an amendment as follows: The purpose of this letter is to request the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) consider an emergency petition to add dipnets as legal gear for the taking of salmon other than king salmon in the Kuskokwim Area during times of king salmon conservation. Under the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan, 5AAC 07.365. (2) (a), in addition to the gear specifications

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and operations provisions of 5 AAC 01.270(n), when the commissioner determines that it is necessary to conserve king salmon to achieve escapement goals, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open salmon fishing to dipnets only; however, all king salmon caught with a dipnet must be released dead or alive to the water. (Motion Passed; unanimous).

At the December 17, 2013 meeting, the Working Group requested that Dave Cannon, Middle River Subsistence representative, draft two emergency petitions (*January 8 Information Packet, Part 1*). The Working Group opened discussion of these petitions by recalling an ACR to the Board of Fish in 2013, and discussions of options for management that occurred at that time. The possibility of using dipnets was discussed, as it would allow subsistence users to harvest chum and sockeye salmon and release Chinook salmon unharmed. Casie Stockdale provided further background, including some history of the use of dipnets among Kuskokwim fishermen and the fact that the acceptance of emergency petitions would be contingent on the Board of Fish recognizing that an emergency exists. The Emergency Petitions, if accepted, would lead to temporary regulation, and would only be affective in 2014. Motion 7 clarified the acceptance of the first paragraph of the letter with an amendment that king salmon "must be released alive to the water."

Motion 8: The Working Group supports requesting the Alaska Board of Fish to consider an Emergency Petition to add the addition gear limitation of 25 fathoms net length [for the purpose of king salmon conservation]. Motion Passed (unanimous).

The second draft emergency petition was discussed. The main concern for Working Group members was that fishers not be required to cut their nets to accommodate the regulation. When it was clarified that nets could be measured, tied, and left intact, Working Group members supported the petition.

# Motion 9: That both of these letters [afore mentioned Emergency Petitions] be submitted by the Working Group, as revised by the co-chairs. Motion Passed (unanimous).

There was discussion to clarify whether the Working Group would submit the petitions, in its own name, or would provide support for someone else to submit them. Motion 9 clarified that the Working Group would make the submission.

# Motion 10: To draft a letter in support of Art Nelson's appointment to the NPFMC. Motion Passed (unanimous).

It was brought to the Working Group's attention that Art Nelson, Policy & Outreach Director of BSFA, was being considered for an appointment to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. Citing Art's support for the Working Group over the years, Casie Stockdale suggested that the Working Group provide a letter of support for appointment to the council. Some members asked for more information about both Art and the appointment, and Casie agreed to furnish this information at a later time.

# <u>Motion 11:</u> For the working group to send a letter to CVRF to consider providing 4-inch and 6-inch mesh to Kuskokwim Fishers. Motion Passed (unanimous).

The Working Group recalled that Coastal Villages Region Fund had donated 6-inch mesh to Kuskokwim fishers in 2011, allowing some fishers to take advantage of subsistence fishing openings with mesh-size restrictions. The Group discussed writing a letter requesting that a similar donation be considered in 2014.

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#### **COMMENTS FROM THE WORKING GROUP:**

Ray Collins, the Representative for the Western Interior RAC, expressed concern over not knowing how many kings would be harvested incidentally with 4-inch mesh, or during limited openings with 6-inch mesh. He said that based on past experience it was likely that some fishers would use the legal gear to illegally harvest as many kings as they could. He asked whether there would be some way to require mandatory reporting of all incidentally and/or accidentally caught king salmon to close that knowledge gap. Bev Hoffman, the chairperson for this meeting, suggested that this would require regulation and could not be dealt with in the short term.

Casie Stockdale said she was proud of what had been accomplished at this meeting, and said that talking points had been developed in the course of the meeting, in the form of the objectives and guidelines adopted the previous day. She said she was changing jobs but intended to remain active as a volunteer on the Working Group.

#### **GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS:**

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC), Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA), Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP), Georgetown Traditional Council (GTC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Bethel Test Fishery project (BTF), Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE), Coastal Village Seafoods (CVS), ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Division (CF), ADF&G Sport Fisheries Division (SF), Regional Advisory Council (RAC), Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group (KRSMWG, Working Group, or WG), Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG), Biological Escapement Goal (BEG), Management Objective (MO), Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence (ANS), Emergency Order (EO), Bering Sea Fishermen's Association (BSFA)

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#### **WORKING GROUP ATTENDANCE:**

MEMBER SEAT:	NAME:
DOWNRIVER ELDER	James Charles
UPRIVER ELDER	Vacant
LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Mike Williams
MIDDLE RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Dave Cannon
UPRIVER SUBSISTENCE	Mark Leary
HEADWATERS SUBSISTENCE	Dan Esai
MEMBER AT LARGE	Fritz Charles
WESTERN INTERIOR RAC	Ray Collins
YK DELTA RAC	Absent
COMMERCIAL FISHING	Greg Hoffman, Jr.
SPORT FISHING	LaMont Albertson
PROCESSOR	Absent
ADF&G	Travis Elison
CHAIR	Bev Hoffman

Other	Partici	pants:

ADF&G Comm. Fish: Aaron Tiernan, Chris Shelden, Zac Liller, Kevin Schaberg, Jan Conitz, John Linderman

Sport Fish: John Chythlook, Tom Taube

Subsistence Division: Chad Cook, Dave Runfola

<u>USFWS:</u> Robert Sundown, Spencer Rearden, Ken Harper, Vince Matthews, Gerald Maschmann <u>OSM:</u> Don Rivard, Pippa Kenner, Jeff Brooks, Palma Ingles

Dan Gillikin (KNA)	John W. Andrew (Downriver Elder Alternate)
Wayne Morgan (TKC)	Barbara Carlson (Upper River Subsistence alternate)
Tim Andrew (AVCP)	Casie Stockdale (Lower River Subsistence alternate)
Greg Roczicka (ONC)	Jack Reakoff (Western Interior RAC)
Roberta Chavez (ONC)	Audrey Leary (Native Village of Napaimute)
Robert Lakander (ONC)	Meagan Leary (Native Village of Napaimute)
Art Nelson (BSFA)	Kate Schaberg (Georgetown Traditional Council)
Jimmy Andrew (Kwethluk)	Buddy Kutch (Georgetown Traditional Council)
Martin Andrew (Kwethluk)	Lisa Feyereisen (Native Village of Chuathbaluk)
Nick Ayapan (Kwethluk)	Lucy Simeon (Native Village of Chuathbaluk)
Jeff Sanders (Bethel)	Gerri Sumpter (Senator Murkowski's office)
Mary Sattler (Bethel)	Dwayne Hoffman (City of Kalskag)
Henry Cole (Bethel)	Crystal Holmberg (McGrath)
Janet Bavilla (Platinum)	Pat Samson (Kuskokwim River Watershed Council)
James Paul (Napaskiak)	Doug Molyneaux (Unaffiliated)
Bill Bechtle	Angela Denning-Barnes (KYUK Radio 1/8/14)
David Bill	Ben Matheson (KYUK Radio 1/9/14)