August 22, 2018

Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m. on Wednesday August 22, 2018 and adjourned at 11:59 a.m. Meeting time was approximately 2 hours. Eight full voting members were present and a quorum was established. Alissa Rogers chaired the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

**USFWS/KRITFC Update:**

**Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Management Actions Under Consideration:**

**People to be Heard:**

**Continuing Business:** Run assessment and management actions.

**Old Business Discussion Topics:**

**New Business Discussion Topics:**
- Board of Fish update
- Kuskokwim Area Comprehensive Salmon Plan update
- Non-salmon spawning tributaries

**WORKING GROUP ACTION ITEMS:** No Action Items at the time of this meeting.

**WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:**

1. Approve the agenda as amended. Passed (Unanimous)
2. Add Albert Kawagley as an alternate to the KRSMWG Member at Large seat. Passed (Unanimous)
3. To adjourn at 11:59 a.m. Passed (Unanimous)

**USFWS/KRITFC UPDATE:** Ken Stahlnecker (USFWS) reported there were no new USFWS updates at the time of the August 22 meeting. James Nicori (KRITFC) commented that the KRITFC had not met since the 2018 management of the Chinook salmon fishery.

**ADF&G MANAGEMENT ACTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION:** Aaron Tiernan (ADF&G Area Management Biologist) reported that there were no new management actions under consideration at the time of the meeting.

**PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:**

- Jen Peeks (ADF&G) thanked the Working Group members and participants for their involvement in the 2018 fishery management discussions. Ms. Peeks commented that after August 31, 2018 Aaron Tiernan would be the Working Group contact.

**SUBSISTENCE REPORTS:**

- **ONC Subsistence Report:** Mary Matthias (ONC) reported that people in the Bethel area were catching on average five silver salmon per fishing trip; one family caught 17 silver salmon. Ms. Matthias commented that the high water level affected fish “catchability.”

- **Lower River:** Greg Hoffman Jr. (Commercial Fishing) reported that on August 16 he made two short drifts using a short gillnet and caught seven silver salmon. Alissa Rogers (Lower Subsistence alternate) reported that she caught ~18 fish during the weekend of August 18. Fritz Charles (Member at Large) reported that he drifted on August 13 and caught 31 coho salmon and 5 sockeye salmon. During the previous weekend, he reported catching five coho salmon at Magic Creek located on the Kwethluk River. James Nicori (KRITFC) commented that very few people had been actively fishing in his area; people had observed an abundance of silver salmon passing through the lower river.
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• **Non-salmon Spawning Tributaries:** LaMont Albertson commented that he observed management inconsistencies regarding fishing in the non-salmon spawning tributaries. Mr. Albertson suggested that USFWS and ADF&G develop a “consistent” management policy for these tributaries from the mouth of the Kuskokwim River to its headwaters.

**NEW BUSINESS:**
• Consideration of appointing Albert Kawagley to the Member at Large seat as an alternate: *(See Motion 2 on page 3.)*

**WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:**
1. **Approve the agenda as amended. Passed (Unanimous)**
2. **Add Albert Kawagley as an alternate to the KRSMWG Member at Large seat. Passed (Unanimous)**
   Working Group members were supportive of adding Mr. Kawagley as an alternate to the Member at Large seat. Barbara Carlson requested that she be repositioned as the last alternate on the list for the Member at Large seat.
3. **To adjourn at 11:59 a.m. Passed (Unanimous)**

**COMMENTS FROM THE WORKING GROUP:**
• Ray Collins commented that traditional knowledge was lost as Elders passed away and that it was important to document historical information. Caroline Brown (ADF&G Subsistence Division) commented that the ADF&G Subsistence Division would consider compiling a list of their harvest and ethnographic research from the Kuskokwim River and provide it to the Working Group members for reference.
• LaMont Albertson commended the Kuspuk School District and others for their work with the 2018 Math and Science Expedition. Mr. Albertson commented that he had recently observed coyotes on his “side of the slough” near Aniak.
• Fritz Charles thanked staff and other organizations for their involvement in the 2018 fishery management inseason meetings and for providing “good” data for discussion. Mr. Charles commented that he looked forward to seeing Working Group participants at the 2019 spring meeting.
• Alissa Rogers commented that 2018 had been an interesting year. Ms. Rogers offered condolences for the families involved in a recent boating accident. She thanked the Working Group participants for their involvement in the 2018 management discussions.
• Albert Kawagley thanked the Working Group participants for attending the meetings and commented that he “enjoyed” hearing the fishing reports from the entire Kuskokwim River. He wished everyone a “good year.”
WORKING GROUP ATTENDANCE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER SEAT</th>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOWNRIVER ELDER</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPRIVER ELDER</td>
<td>Absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE</td>
<td>Alissa Rogers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLE RIVER SUBSISTENCE</td>
<td>Lisa Feyereisen</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPRIVER SUBSISTENCE</td>
<td>Barbara Carlson</td>
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<tr>
<td>HEADWATERS SUBSISTENCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEMBER AT LARGE</td>
<td>Fritz Charles</td>
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<tr>
<td>WESTERN INTERIOR RAC</td>
<td>Ray Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>YK DELTA RAC</td>
<td>Bob Aloysius</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMMERCIAL FISHING</td>
<td>Greg Hoffman Jr.</td>
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<td>SPORT FISHING</td>
<td>LaMont Albertson</td>
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<td>PROCESSOR</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<td>KRITFC</td>
<td>James Nicori</td>
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<td>ADF&amp;G</td>
<td>Aaron Tiernan</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHAIR</td>
<td>Alissa Rogers</td>
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</tbody>
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Other Participants:
- ADF&G Comm. Fish: Nick Smith, Colton Lipka, Zach Liller, Jen Peeks
- Subsistence Division: Caroline Brown
- USFWS: Ken Stahlnecker, Aaron Webber, David Phillips
- OSM: Christine Bremmer, Gary Decossas
- Bill Bechtol (KRITFC)
- Mary Matthias (OTNC)
- Jim Simon (BSFA, KRITFC)
- Meredith Witte (GTC)
- Dan Gillikin (NVN)
- Albert Kawagley (Bethel)

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS:
Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G, department, State), Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC), 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, 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), Law Enforcement (LE), Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (KRITFC), Native Village of Napaimute (NVN), Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC), Alaska State Troopers (AST)