August 14, 2019

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday August 14, 2019 and adjourned at 11:55 a.m. Meeting time was approximately 2 hours. Ten full voting members were present and a quorum was established. Alissa N. 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:

Old Business Discussion Topics:

New Business Discussion Topics:

WORKING GROUP ACTION ITEMS:

WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:

1. Approve the agenda. Passed (Unanimous)
2. To support ADF&G management recommendations regarding allowing registered catcher/sellers opportunities to fish commercially Passed (Unanimous)
3. To schedule the next Working Group meeting for Wednesday August 28, at 10:00 a.m. Passed (Unanimous)
4. Adjourn at 11:55 p.m. Passed (Unanimous)

5. KRITFC/ USFWS UPDATE: Gary Decossas (USFWS) had no updates at this time.

6. ADF&G MANAGEMENT ACTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION: Ben Gray (ADF&G) reported at this time no action will be taken on subsistence fishing and the regulations in place will remain. Mr. Gray commented on one registered catcher and seller in the area who ADF&G intend to speak with to decide a time to allow them to fish.

7. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

- **SUBSISTENCE REPORTS:**
  - **Lower River:** Alissa Rogers (Lower River Subsistence) commented that CPUE was satisfactory. Ms. Rogers reported after approximately three hours of fishing she caught thirty Coho, ten chums, and four spawned out sockeye.
  - **Middle River:** Lisa Feyereisen (Middle River Subsistence alternate) reported that people are still fishing very successfully.
  - **Upriver:** Barbara Carlson (Member at Large alternate) reported that Coho salmon are starting to arrive.

- **CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

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1. **Overview of Kuskokwim River Salmon Run Assessment Projects:** Nick Smith (ADF&G) provided an overview of the ADF&G assessment projects. *(For more information on the 2019 in season assessment projects, please see the August 14 Informational Packet).*
   - **Bethel Test Fish:** Primarily Coho (and some chum salmon) are being caught at BTF. Over the past few days, subsistence fishers have been setting nets near where BTF operations occur, which could have caused CPUE to be lower during those times. As of August 14th, Coho numbers appear to be building at BTF. Operations will cease August 24th.
   - **Chinook Aerial Survey:** Surveys were conducted between July 24th and July 29th. All Chinook escapement goals were met. Three escapement goals were exceeded.
   - **Sonar:** Overall, sonar had a successful season. Operations ceased July 26th.
   - **Weirs:** Chinook salmon escapement goals were met at the Kwethluk River weir and exceeded at the George and Kogruklu River weirs. Both chum and sockeye salmon escapement goals were also exceeded at the Kogruklu River weir. It is still too early to report on Coho salmon escapement at Kogruklu, however, numbers appear to be tracking similarly to previous years.
   - **Subsistence Division project update:** No projects in the water.

2. **Sport Fishing:** Lamont Albertson (Sport Fishing) reported that fishing guides are doing well.

3. **Discussion of ADF&G Management considerations and discussion of possible alternatives:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:**

1. **Approve the agenda.** Passed *(Unanimous)*
2. **To schedule the next Working Group meeting for Wednesday August 14 at 10:00 a.m.** Passed *(Unanimous)*
3. **Adjourn at 12:38 p.m.** Passed *(Unanimous)*

**COMMENTS FROM THE WORKING GROUP:** No additional comments were provided from the Working Group members.
Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group
1 (800) 315-6338 (MEET) Code: 58756# (KUSKO)
ADF&G Bethel toll free: 1 (855) 933-2433

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WORKING GROUP ATTENDANCE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER SEAT:</th>
<th>NAME:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOWNRIVER ELDER</td>
<td>James Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPRIVER ELDER</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE</td>
<td>Mike Williams Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLE RIVER SUBSISTENCE</td>
<td>Lisa Feyereisen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPRIVER SUBSISTENCE</td>
<td>Barbara Carlson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEADWATERS SUBSISTENCE</td>
<td>Absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMBER AT LARGE</td>
<td>Albert Kawagley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTERN INTERIOR RAC</td>
<td>Absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YK DELTA RAC</td>
<td>Absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMERCIAL FISHING</td>
<td>Greg Hoffman Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPORT FISHING</td>
<td>LaMont Albertson</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROCESSOR</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<tr>
<td>KRITFC</td>
<td>Absent</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADF&amp;G</td>
<td>Ben Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAIR</td>
<td>Alissa N. Rogers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Other Participants:

ADF&G Comm. Fish: Nick Smith, Lily Reichard, Chuck Brazil, Bobette Dickerson, Chris McDevitt
Sport Fish: John Chythlook
Subsistence Division: Dave Runfola

USFWS: Aaron Webber, Gary Decossas
OSM:

Bill Bechtol (KRITFC)
Kevin Whitworth (KRITFC)
Jennifer Hooper (AVCP)

Glossary of Abbreviations:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G, department, State), Orutsararmiut Traditional Native Council (OTNC), 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), Law Enforcement (LE), Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (KRITFC), Native Village of Napaimute (NVN), Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC), Alaska State Troopers (AST), University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)