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July 23, 2014

Meeting called to order at 1:30pm on Wednesday July 23, adjourned at 6:00pm. Total meeting time was 4.5 hours. Nine voting members were present and a quorum was maintained throughout the meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS:

People to be heard

Continuing Business: Run assessment and management actions

Old Business Discussion Topics: Continued discussion of a Tier II permit system and other fishery management options for the Kuskokwim River. *Tabled*

New Business Discussion Topics:

- 1. Presentation of BSFA proposed project: Capacity building workshops to support sustainable management of declined Kuskokwim Chinook Salmon Joe Spaeder, BSFA staff. *Tabled*
- 2. Discussion of the relationship between the Working Group and the State.
- 3. Discussion of request for federal takeover of fisheries in the Kuskokwim River. *Tabled*
- 4. Discussion of Bev Hoffman's letter to Commissioner Campbell.
- 5. Discussion of Lisa Feyereisen's letter to Commissioner Campbell.
- 6. Request to meet with the State's Attorney General to address the inequitable allocation of salmon resources for subsistence users on the Kuskokwim River. *Tabled*
- 7. Consider a vote of "no confidence" in the current leadership of the Subsistence Division for the subsistence fishery on the Kuskokwim River.
- 8. Consider a vote of "no confidence" in the current leadership of the Commercial Fishery Division for the Kuskokwim River.
- 9. Consideration of a teleconferenced meeting in Kalskag, Aniak or a subsistence fisher's smoke house for an upcoming KRSMWG meeting. *Tabled*
- 10. Discussion of locating subsistence users downriver who would be willing to share their subsistence catch with upriver fishers who do not meet their needs. *Tabled*

<u>WORKING GROUP ACTION ITEMS:</u> these items were not called "action items" at the time of meeting; however work was assigned or volunteered.

- 1. Distribute to Working Group participants a link to access the Mark-Recapture Study of Kuskokwim River Coho, Chum, Sockeye and Chinook Salmon, 2001-2006. (7/24/14, Jen Peeks)
- 2. Request for feedback from ADF&G regarding why staff at the Kalskag tagging project did not include local hires in 2014, as it has in previous years. (ADF&G, through email)
- 3. Request for ADF&G to communicate with villages regarding upcoming village travel. (ADF&G)
- 4. Draft a letter for the next Working Group meeting requesting a meeting with the Attorney General and Governor. (*LaMont Albertson*)

WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:

- 1. Approval of the agenda as amended. Motion passed (unanimously).
- 2. To support the recommendation that ADF&G continue assessing the Bethel Test Fishery, meet with different communities and schedule the next Working Group meeting for Wednesday 30 July at 1:30pm. *Motion passed (7 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention)*
- 3. Request for assistance in putting together a proposal for the BOF on addressing allocation. *Motion passed* (8 yeas, 0 nays)
- 4. Adjournment. *Motion passed (unanimous)*.

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PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

- 1. Rick Robb, an active commercial fisher from Bethel, said that decisions on fisheries should be based on science rather than politics. He said that the majority of commercial fishers on the Kuskokwim River were local people from Bethel and the villages. He pointed out that many of the commercial fishers were also subsistence users and the money made through commercial fishing subsidized their subsistence activities. He added that commercial fishing also brought some economic activity to the area.
- 2. Robert Lekander from Bethel, both a subsistence and commercial fisher, said he does not understand the closures on commercial fishing. He said commercial fishing was a way for the people in the lower river to earn money to support moose hunting activities. He commented that drying coho salmon was usually unsuccessful due to the poor drying weather at that time.
- 3. Adolph Lupie from Tuntutuliak said that he appreciated the three commercial openers during the 2014 season. He said that he relies on commercial fishing for income. He commented that the chum and sockeye salmon were late during the 2014 season.
- 4. Ben Beaver, a subsistence and commercial fisher from Bethel, commented on the sacrifices that the villagers had to make with the 2014 restrictions. He expressed concern regarding management decisions and pointed out that being in the village was more financially challenging than being in Bethel. He said that commercial fishing provided monetary support for families.
- 5. Evon Waska from Bethel thanked ADF&G for allowing previous commercial openers. He said that for some people, commercial fishing was their main income for the winter. He supported having commercial openings. Mr. Waska explained that due to the width and channel complexity of the lower river, commercial fishers did not catch all the fish headed up the river.
- 6. Megan Leary from Napaimute and Bethel wanted to remind ADF&G that there was no economy upriver. She said that although people had been fishing for chum and sockeye salmon, the chum salmon were no longer suitable for human consumption. She commented that people were relying on coho salmon to meet subsistence needs. Ms. Leary said that, although the people uprviver did not like the restrictions, they obeyed the rules and regulations and would like some cooperation on the debate regarding commercial fishing. She said that fish also needed to make it up the river to their spawning grounds.
- 7. Lisa Feyereisen spoke on behalf of the Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee. She discussed the meeting held in Lower Kalskag in February 2014. At that time she said 41 people testified regarding the 2013 fishing season. During 2013 she said they relied on chum salmon for subsistence and many were unable to meet their needs. During the 2014 season, Ms. Feyereisen said that the middle river supported the Chinook salmon restrictions and abided by the law. She reported that they had not seen the ratio of chum salmon that had been reported in the lower river. Ms. Feyereisen said that the middle river and upper river had seen 2 years of hardships and were concerned.
- 8. Nastasia Levi from Lower Kalskag said that the middle river gets the fish that are left over after the lower river fishes. Ms. Levi reported that when commercial fishing happens down river, they see fewer fish in the middle river. Ms. Levi said that people in Lower Kalskag were trying to catch as many chum and sockeye salmon as possible during the 2014 season to meet their needs. She commented that 44 households were still fishing; one family was fishing for over 10 families. Ms. Levi added that the middle river deserves to have their needs met just like the lower river.
- 9. Walter Morgan from Lower Kalskag spoke about the challenges they had drifting in the middle river. He said that they often hear about the fish headed up river but have not seen those same ratios in the middle river. He commented that he has fished for 40 years. He suggested allowing the early part of the coho salmon run through in order to help everyone meet their needs.
- 10. Aaron Poetter (ADF&G) reviewed the decision making process for the 2014 commercial openers per Bev Hoffman's request. Mr. Poetter reported that the preseason 2014 forecast anticipated a commercial surplus of chum salmon. He commented that subsistence opportunity with the use of 6-inch mesh driftnets was provided throughout the majority of the chum salmon run. He pointed out that 93% of the chum salmon

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run had passed when they opened the first commercial fishery. Mr. Poetter said this was consistent with the management plan and pre-season strategy. The Kogrukluk escapement goal for chum salmon had been achieved for the 2014 season. He pointed out that ADF&G postponed the initial commercial opener due to Working Group concerns of meeting subsistence needs. He said that based on subsistence reports received at Working Group meetings, people in the middle and upper rivers were no longer fishing for chum salmon due to quality issues.

- 11. Anna Mallette from Lower Kalskag said she was fishing for over 10 families. She said there was little economy in the middle river, making subsistence harvest very important. She commented on the difficulty of hunting in the Kalskag area during the winter time. Ms. Mallette suggested that commercial fishing should be suspended during the first part of the coho salmon run.
- 12. Alice Waska Kameroff from Lower Kalskag, originally from Bethel, said she understood both the importance of commercial fishing and the difficulties of subsisting in the middle river. She thought people should go back to the old ways and share the resources. She desired that the first part of the coho run not be open to commercial fishing in the lower river.
- 13. Robert Otto from Kongiganak, a commercial fisher, commented on the runtime that was allowed for fish to travel up river in between commercial openings. He supported commercial fishing openers.
- 14. Gerri Sumpter with Senator Murkowski's office commented that Ms. Murkowski was following the Working Group and Kuskokwim fishery concerns. People may contact her anytime to provide input.
- 15. Brian McCaffrey with USFWS said that refuge staff planned to remain involved in management discussions through both Working Group meetings and directly with ADF&G.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- 1. Subsistence Reports:
- Lowest River Reports: Charlie Brown (Commercial Fisher) said that subsistence fishing was primarily finished in the lowest part of the river. He said they have not historically dried coho salmon because of the weather, but still fished during this time for dinner food and saluunaq.
- ONC In-season Subsistence Report: The ONC inseason subsistence reports concluded for the 2014 season. Greg Roczicka (ONC) commented on concerns that the 4-inch mesh setnets may have harvested too many fish. He said that one family who turned in their ASL samples reported catching 52 king salmon over a course of 10 days in their 4-inch mesh setnet. He said that several people reported wanting to fish for coho salmon.
- **Lower River Subsistence:** Fritz Charles (Member At Large) said that most people were finished fishing for dry fish but were waiting for coho salmon, to freeze.
 - Bev Hoffman (Co-Chair/ Sport Fishing) reported that she would be using coho salmon for jarring and kipper needs. She said that many people from the Bethel community were concentrating on coho salmon for their freezers and jarring.
 - Mike Williams (Lower River Subsistence) emailed comments, read by Bev Hoffman. He reported that he and others had not met their needs for the winter. He said that the amount of fish appeared adequate but many were not fishing due to weather and fear of spoilage. He commented that if numbers were adequate and there was a surplus, he would support commercial fishing.
- **KNA Inseason Subsistence:** Megan Leary (KNA) reported that a few people were finished in the middle river but the majority continued to fish to meet their needs (*See the July 23 Informational Packet for full survey results*.
- Middle River Subsistence: Dave Cannon (Middle River Subsistence alternate) reported that there were not many people fishing at that time. One person reported catching 6 chum salmon on July 22 with one drift and catching 17 chum salmon on July 23 with one drift. He said that many people still wanted to put away coho salmon because they had trouble getting enough chum salmon.
 - Lisa Feyereisen (Middle River Subsistence alternate) said that during the Friday 18 July meeting in Lower Kalskag people reported that their subsistence needs had not been met and they would be relying on future

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fish. She said people were catching some small sockeye salmon and 3-4 chum salmon per drift. She commented that one person drifted on July 20 but only caught 3 chum salmon and decided to wait for coho salmon.

• Upriver Subsistence

Mark Leary (Upriver Subsistence) said that he generally supported and understood the importance of commercial fishing opportunities for the lower river, but not during the 2014 season since subsistence needs had not been met.

Barb Carlson (Upriver Subsistence) reported that during the week of July 14th she caught a "handful" of chum salmon and a few sockeye salmon in her setnet. She said there were not many families fishing and most people were waiting for the coho salmon. Ms. Carlson said one family was satisfied with their catch during the 2014 season. She commented that many families had little or no dry fish and the drying season had not corresponded with the fish runs.

• Headwaters Subsistence

Dan Esai (Headwaters Subsistence) reported that most people were not fishing in the village. Since the chum and red salmon were slow people were going to rely on the coho salmon. A few people reported catching tagged fish. He commented on the large amount of Chinook salmon observed during the 2014 season in the headwaters and was disappointed that ADF&G did not conduct an earlier aerial survey. Mr. Esai said a lot of people didn't meet their dry fish needs.

Ray Collins (Western Interior RAC) commented that the restrictions during the 2014 season made a difference with the number of king salmon in the headwaters and appreciated conservation efforts in the lower river. Mr. Collins noted that chum salmon were not usually in good eating condition at the headwaters, so people would be relying on coho salmon.

2. Overview of Kuskokwim River Salmon Run Assessment Projects:

- Bethel Test Fish: Aaron Poetter (ADF&G) reported that the water temperature was below average but within the historical range, water clarity was below average but within the historical range, and the water level was decreasing and reflecting near average. Mr. Poetter reviewed the daily CPUE's for the BTF. He reported that chum salmon were slightly behind the 5 year average, sockeye salmon were 18 points below the 5 year average and coho salmon were just entering the river. Kevin Schaberg (ADF&G) reported that ADF&G was in the process of completing a coho salmon run reconstruction which would assist in more formalized coho salmon forecasts. He also said the coho salmon run was expected to be below average for the 2014 season (For more information on the BTF, please see the July 23 Informational Packet)
- Radio Tagging Project: Josh Clark (ADF&G) reported that the lower river tagging numbers had been updated. He said that they had already tracked 10 of the tagged fish up the Kwethluk River. Mr. Clark commented that final results were expected to be completed in spring 2015. Zach Liller (ADF&G) reported that the Kalskag tagging project started tagging fish on June 5, 2014 and completed tagging on July 17th. The total catch for king salmon was 330 and total tagged was 304. He said ~70% of the tagged fish had made it as far as the telemetry station at the mouth of the Holitna River. (For more information on the tagging projects please the July 23 Informational Packet).
- Weirs: Brittany Blain (ADF&G) reported on the USFWS and ADF&G weir projects. The weir projects were reporting numbers for Chinook, chum and sockeye salmon. A few coho salmon had also been counted. She reported no concerns regarding the operation of the weirs at this point in the 2014 season. Kevin Schaberg reported that ADF&G would be re-evaluating the escapement goals during the 2014-15 winter season. (For more information on weirs, please see the July 23 Informational Packet)
- <u>Aerial Survey</u>: Aaron Poetter (ADF&G) reported that Colton Lipka (ADF&G) left on Friday 18 July to conduct aerial surveys in the upper portion of the Kuskokwim River.
- 3. Commercial Catch Report: Aaron Poetter (ADF&G) reported on the commercial fishery catch for the June 14, July 18 and July 21, 2014 openers. (For more information on catch reports, please see the July 23 Informational Packet)
- **4. Processor Report:** Henry Mitchell (CVS) commented on the catch reports.

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- **5. Sport Fishing Report:** John Chythlook (ADF&G) reported that it was too early to comment on coho salmon sport fishing and Chinook salmon sport fishing remained closed.
- **6. Intercept Fishery Report:** Aaron Poetter (ADF&G) reported no new information.
- 7. Weather Report: Bev Hoffman reported that the weather was forecasted to improve.
- 8. Recommendations: Aaron Poetter (ADF&G) reported that there were no future commercial salmon openers scheduled. He said that ADF&G would continue to receive input from all users and assessment projects, including BTF. Mr. Poetter commented that ADF&G recognized an increased need for the subsistence use of coho salmon this 2014 season. He said ADF&G would appreciate reports from individuals concerning coho salmon harvest and meeting subsistence needs. Mr. Poetter said ADF&G would be making visits to communities. He requested that the next Working Group meeting be held on Wednesday 30 July.
- **9. Motion for Discussion and Action:** The motion passed to support the recommendation (*See Motion #2 below*)

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Continued discussion of a Tier II permit system and other fishery management options for the Kuskokwim River: John Linderman (ADF&G) reported that there was an effort for the Executive Director of the BOF to contact Mr. Fairbanks, understanding that Mr. Fairbanks would be unavailable for several weeks and surpass the deadline for an ARC submission. The Executive Director had also been in contact with Mike Reardon for further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Presentation of BSFA proposed project: Capacity building workshops to support sustainable management of declined Kuskokwim Chinook Salmon Joe Spaeder, BSFA staff. TABLED
- 2. Discussion of the relationship between the Working Group and the State:

Several individuals spoke regarding tensions that had been developing over the course of the 2014 fishing season between the Working Group and management over fisheries management concerns. John Linderman (ADF&G) clarified that within the framework of ADF&G regulations and statutes there was a requirement to provide opportunity for all fishery users on the Kuskokwim River so long as harvestable surpluses could be identified. He explained that subsistence was the priority use, though local department staff had no way to allocate between subsistence users. Discussion with Working Group members clarified that commercial fishers must be provided opportunity so long as a harvestable surplus above escapement and subsistence needs could be identified. Mr. Linderman commented that the BOF represented the process through which the public and the Working Group could work to implement changes to any fisheries regulations and specifically to answer questions of allocation between users of different types or between users of the same type in different areas. He said that the Working Group was a unique and positive group that provided important feedback and input to the department. Mr. Linderman further said that ADF&G had every intention to continue engaging with the Working Group process.

Greg Roczicka (Middle River Subsistence) recognized the difficulty in trying to balance the different wants, needs and desires of many users. He encouraged people to continue to work together in finding solutions.

Bev Hoffman (Co-Chair/ Sport Fishing) said she wanted to work to improve the relationship between the Working Group and management. She focused attention on ensuring enough fish reached the spawning grounds and that subsistence needs were met.

LaMont Albertson (Sport Fishing) pointed out the different interests between upriver and downriver communities. He commented on the importance of subsistence users meeting their harvest needs. Mark Leary (Upriver Subsistence) spoke of the need to move toward an Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

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Lisa Feyereisen (Middle River Subsistence alternate) commented that she was frustrated with management decisions and statements that did not always reflect the voice of the Working Group. Ray Collins (Western Interior RAC) commented on the historical changes of fishing in the region.

3. Discussion of request for federal takeover of fisheries in the Kuskokwim River. *TABLED*Discussion proceeded regarding Special Action requests submitted by KNA, Lower Kalskag and the Native Village of Napaimute for a federalization of the Kuskokwim River fishery to prevent further commercial openings during the 2014 season until subsistence needs were met in the middle and upper.

Gene Peltola Jr. (OSM) commented on the process of such requests. He said that there was no specific time line for this process.

4. Discussion of Bev Hoffman's letter to Commissioner Campbell.

Bev Hoffman explained her letter to Commissioner Campbell as a response to concerns shared at the 16 July Working Group meeting. (*To read the letter, please see the July 23 Informational Packet*)

5. Discussion of Lisa Feyereisen's letter to Commissioner Campbell.

Lisa Feyereisen explained that her letter to Commissioner Campbell restated the middle river's position on commercial salmon openers and that there was an overwhelming request for a federal Special Action. (To read the letter, please see the July 23 Informational Packet)

6. Request to meet with the State's Attorney General to address the inequitable allocation of salmon resources for subsistence users on the Kuskokwim River. *Tabled*

LaMont Albertson said there was an allocation issue regarding the salmon resource on the Kuskokwim River

Greg Roczicka (Lower River Subsistence alternate) pointed out that Lance Nelson was the Attorney General's representative on the BOF and that the BOF was mandated by statute to address allocative issues. He commented that such allocative concerns needed to first be addressed by the BOF through a vote before further challenging it in court.

John Linderman (ADF&G) stated that the department had no purview to allocate between subsistence users and must defer to the BOF process. He said that there was a placeholder with the BOF in respect to the letter by Grant Fairbanks and the Working Group's standing request regarding investigating community harvest schemes.

Barb Carlson (Upriver Subsistence alternate) expressed the need to obtain better subsistence data in the middle and upper river in order to support more equitable allocation.

7. Consider a vote of "no confidence" in the current leadership of the Subsistence Division for the subsistence fishery on the Kuskokwim River.

Working Group members expressed concern and frustration regarding the perceived lack of support by the ADF&G Subsistence Division. Working Group members requested that the Subsistence Division take a more active role in commercial fishery decisions and during Working Group meetings. Lisa Olson Deputy Director of the Division of Subsistence (ADF&G) clarified that Subsistence Division staff regularly attended Working Group meetings and said that the division does make recommendations to managers and are open to feedback from subsistence users.

8. Consider a vote of "no confidence" in the current leadership of the Commercial Fishery Division for the Kuskokwim River.

Some Working Group members expressed that middle river communities wanted subsistence to be a priority above commercial fishing in fishery decisions.

John Linderman (ADF&G) clarified that subsistence needs remain the priority use for salmon resources and said that the Tier II proposal and the Working Group initial request to the BOF was the appropriate process for addressing allocative concerns.

Jeff Regnart (ADF&G) said the Commercial Division would be in support of the Working Group submitting a proposal to the BOF.

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- 9. Consideration of a teleconferenced meeting in Kalskag, Aniak or a subsistence fisher's smoke house for an upcoming KRSMWG meeting. *Tabled*
- 10. Discussion of locating subsistence users downriver who would be willing to share their subsistence catch with upriver fishers who do not meet their needs. *Tabled*

WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:

Motion 1: To approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed (unanimous):

Motion 2: To support the recommendation that ADF&G continue assessing the Bethel Test Fishery, meet with different communities and schedule the next Working Group meeting for Wednesday 30 July at 1:30pm. Motion passed (7 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention)

The Working Group stressed the importance of the middle and upper river communities meeting their subsistence needs prior to additional commercial fishing in the lower river. Greg Roczicka commented that since the coho salmon were just starting, he did not see any reason to have a commercial opener prior to August 1, or even later, to ensure the first pulse of the coho salmon make it upriver.

Motion 3: Request for assistance in putting together a proposal for the BOF on addressing allocation. Motion passed (8 yeas, 0 nays)

Concerns regarding fishery resource allocation were discussed by Working Group members. ADF&G clarified that allocative issues needed to be addressed with the BOF. ADF&G Commercial and Subsistence Divisions were supportive of the Working Group bringing concerns to the BOF and offered support with the process.

Motion 5: Adjournment. Motion passed (unanimous).

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COMMENTS FROM THE WORKING GROUP

Ray Collins (Western Interior RAC) said that he understood that commercial fishers "paid a price" with a reduced income when there were no openings, but people at the headwaters also "paid a price" and had no economy other than firefighting. He linked the decline of fish in the headwaters to the historical start of commercial fishing on the Kuskokwim River. He remembered the elders saying that the "salmon had their own trail" but they no longer have a clear passage because they are targeted in the lower river.

Fritz Charles (Member at Large) said he would not be in favor of a Tier II permit system. He requested consideration of moving the Working Group meetings to the evening. He commented that the 2014 season and past seasons seem to show a decline in all salmon species. Mr. Charles said he felt like the Working Group voices were not being heard and thought the commercial fishery was unnecessary. He commented that in the future the entire river may need to be closed.

Henry Mitchell (Processor) discussed his concern regarding a recent article in the Alaska Dispatch that discussed the Kuskokwim "Fish Wars." He said that the Kuskokwim River fishery supported local people from the villages and it was important to CVS that people met their subsistence needs. Mr. Mitchell commented that CVS had asked the State to not have further commercial openings until there were enough resources to meet subsistence needs. He would also like to discuss at a future Working Group meeting the concerns regarding the salmon by-catch.

Dan Esai (Headwaters Subsistence) said that they have been noticing more king salmon in the headwaters and appreciated the people down river for the hardships they endured. He thanked the Working Group for their efforts.

Mike Williams (Lower River Subsistence) commented (via email) on the need for a one management system on the Kuskokwim River to reduce division and confusion. He said that the Working Group was an advisory group to ADF&G and had made reasonable requests to make sure subsistence needs were met during the 2014 season to no avail. He said that if the numbers were adequate for a commercial opener then it should be opened; if the numbers did not reflect this then he was not in favor of a commercial opener.

Aaron Poetter (ADF&G) said that the department was committed to the Working Group process and he looked forward to continued work with the Working Group and USFWS.

Dave Cannon (Middle River Subsistence) invited Aaron Poetter to visit Aniak to see the various fishcamps and meet community members.

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WORKING GROUP ATTENDANCE:

MEMBER SEAT:	NAME:
DOWNRIVER ELDER	Absent
UPRIVER ELDER	Vacant
LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Greg Roczicka
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	Charlie Brown
SPORT FISHING	LaMont Albertson
PROCESSOR	Henry Mitchel
ADF&G	Aaron Poetter
CHAIR	Bev Hoffman

Other Participants:

ADF&G Comm. Fish: Aaron Poetter, Brittany Blain, Chris Shelden, Kevin Schaberg, Jeff Regnart, Jan Conitz, Dan Bergstrom, Zach Liller, Katie Froning, Josh Clark, John Linderman, Jen Peeks

Sport Fishing: John Chythlook

Subsistence Division: Dave Runfola, Hiroko Ikuta, Lisa Olson

USFWS: Brian McCaffrey, Steve Miller, Lew Coggins, Neil Lalonde, Holly Gaborio OSM: Gene Peltola Jr., Don Rivard, George Papas, Trent Liebich, Pippa Kenner

Lisa Feyereisen (Middle River Subsistence alternate) Megan Leary (KNA)

Rebecca Frye (KNA) Ben Matheson (KYUK Radio)

Bill Bechtol (AVCP) Lisa Demer (ADN)

Kevin Bartley (Unaffiliated) Gerri Sumpter (Sen. Murkowski's Office) Doug Molyneaux (Unaffiliated) Abel Hopson (Senator Begich's Office) Kate Schaberg (NVGT) Shauna Toma (Senator Begich's State Director)

Gale Vick (Tanana Chiefs Council) Nick David (Tuntutuliak) Evon Waska (Bethel) Nathan Underwood (Aniak) Danny Charles (Bethel) Duane Littlefish (Lower Kalskag) Richard Westdahl (Bethel) Adolph Lupie (Tuntutuliak) Oscar Demientieff (Bethel) Martha Evan (Lower Kalskag)

Rick Robb (Bethel) Nastasia Jackie Levi (Lower Kalskag) Robert Lekander (Bethel) Alice Kameroff (Lower Kalskag) Ben Beaver (Bethel) Anna Mallette (Lower Kalskag)

Harley Hoffman (Kuskokwim River Watershed Council) Molly Hills

Robert Otto (Kongiganak) Joe Spaeder (BSFA)

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),

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Biological Escapement Goal (BEG), Management Objective (MO), Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence (ANS), Emergency Order (EO), Bering Sea Fishermen's Association (BSFA)