

MEMORANDUM

RC 005

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Boards Support Section

TO: Ted Spraker, Chairman
Board of Game

DATE: January 4, 2017

John Jensen, Chairman
Board of Fisheries

THRU:

PHONE: 907-465-6095

FROM: Glenn Haight, Executive Director *GH*
Alaska Board of Fisheries

SUBJECT: Advisory Committee Input
on Draft Federal Subsistence
Memorandum of
Understanding

This memo offers advisory committee (AC) input received on a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) developed through initial efforts by state and federal staff. The MOU is dated August 2016. Subsequently the state team approached the memo with additional recommended changes which will be addressed once initial AC and regional advisory council input is received.

Boards Support Section received input from seven ACs from the time the MOU was distributed in early November until mid-December. In addition, seven ACs scheduled the MOU for discussion, but either tabled it to a future meeting or did not record comments in the meeting minutes. Not all ACs have met this cycle. Of those ACs that discussed the MOU, several tabled it to a future meeting for further discussion. The following are general comments reviewed from AC minutes or meetings. Actual AC minutes/input is listed in the next section and attached to this report.

- Concerns about the implementation of the MOU and the effectiveness, especially regarding data sharing of dually-managed resources.
- Lack of trust that the federal agencies will follow through with the parameters set forth in the MOU as it is a non-binding document.
- Permitting and regulations are sometimes confusing in the state and federal programs.
- It is important the local residents have a say in their region's regulations.
- Elders need to be part of management discussions.
- Regulating the resources continues to be important due to population growth.
- State and Federal programs need to better communicate regarding lands; it is difficult to know if you are on state or federal land.
- Enforcement needs to have a bigger presence.

- Use the term *Integrated* rather than *coordinated* (section 4, 7).
- System is broke and needs to be fixed; no conservation where it is state managed.
- State and federal programs need to be working closely with the tribes.
- Problems with declining caribou; what kind of studies are there on predator control by both state and federal agencies.
- Request for more data sharing between state and federal agencies and with the general public.
- State and federal governments were doing well but the regulations were hard to enforce; need better coordination between state and federal lands.
- Dual system doesn't work.
- Would like see more coordination for managing Kuskokwim River.
- Better coordination of research, but may be different interpretations between the state and federal program.
- Difficult when there are different managers and wildlife is not stable and regulations change.
- Conservation and mapping projects; look at different issues such as over land traffic and studies on the natural resource.

Index of AC Input or action (see attached for minutes):

Anchorage - 11/1/16 minutes.

Bethel – minutes not yet submitted.

Central Kuskokwim - 12/2/16 minutes; tabled.

Coastal Lower Yukon - 12/3/16 minutes; more time needed to discuss with Tribal councils before submitting comments.

Cooper Landing – 10/16/16 minutes; agenda item “no action” recorded in minutes.

Fairbanks - 11/9/16 minutes; no action or comments.

Kenai/Soldotna - Agenda item but no comments recorded in minutes.

Kotzebue – 11/3/16 minutes; The AC will collect comments; presume for future discussion.

Lower Kobuk - 12/21/16 minutes.

Mid-Lower Yukon - 11/16-17/16 minutes.

Naknek/Kvichak - 11/10/16 minutes; tabled.

Northern Norton Sound - 12/6/16 minutes; tabled.

Petersburg – 11/1/16 letter to Ms. Jill Klein, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, ADF&G.

Southern Norton Sound – 12/8/16 minutes; questions about purpose; no specific comments.

Upper Kobuk – 12/20/16 minutes (AC 24 to BOG).

ATTACHMENT A – AC MINUTES

(Minutes have been abbreviated as appropriate to include just those portions related to the
MOU comments.)

Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 1st, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Location of Meeting: King Career Center, located at 2650 E Northern Lights Blvd. Anchorage, Alaska

- I. Call to Order: 6:30pm by Joel Doner
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Present: Phillip Calhoun, Jim Bolgiano, Ernie Weiss, Kevin Taylor, Bryce Eckroth (alternate), Willow Hetrick, Joel Doner, Trevor Rollman, Dino Sutherland, Frank Neumann, Neil DeWitt, Matt Moore (alternate), Martin Weiser, and Brian Nelson.
Members Absent: Kenny Rogers (Excused), Gerold (Jerry) Gugel (Unexcused), & Art Nelson (Unexcused).
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8
List of User Groups Present: None
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Trevor Rollman motioned, Neil DeWitt seconded; approved.
- IV. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** From April 5, 2016. Neil DeWitt motioned, Kevin Taylor seconded; unanimously approved.
- V. **Fish and Game Staff Present:** Matt Miller, Jill Klein, Jay Ballard
- VI. **Guests Present:** Jim Stubbs, Zach Stubbs, & George Jacoby
- VII. **Old Business:** None
- VIII. **New Business:**

Federal Subsistence MOU - Jill Klein (Special Assistant to the Commissioner of ADF&G) – template from the pre-existing MOU between the Federal Subsistence Board and the Board of Fish. This version has been through a round of edits through various AC's across the State; more revisions are to come on this version. The Department of Law has been able to look at the document. MOU is for coordinated management of subsistence uses on federal and public lands. Are renewing it because the MOU has expired (November 2014); annual meetings to work through issues relating to the MOU were not taking place. Board of Fish and Board of Game support this MOU, now it is in the AC's for comments. There is no specific deadline for comments on the MOU, but the enactment this MOU is anticipated for Spring 2017. Invited Jill Klein back to present latest version of MOU during Anchorage AC December meeting.

- Anchorage AC Comments/Questions – what are the differences between the old and the new MOU's?
 - In the old MOU, the State had primacy but in this version the Federal entities have primacy.
 - Section 2 has been modified as it was an area that the State and the Feds could not agree upon.

- Removed that the MOU would expire. Added an annual meeting requiring signatures at the annual meetings to re-visit the old and new issues annually.
- Concerns about the implementation of this MOU and the effectiveness, especially regarding data sharing of dually-managed resources.
 - MOU also includes language on protocols on how to share data. Anticipating that with a change in administration, there will be progress in working better together. There is a new regional director at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that the ADF&G is happy to work with. Hoping that the new administration will help relations between the State and Federal agencies will be for the better.
 - Anchorage AC is supportive of the MOU despite lack of trust that the Federal agencies will follow through with the parameters set forth in the MOU as this is a non-binding document.

IX. Public Testimony:

- Jim Stubbs –
 - Proposal 6 & 7 (extension of the steelhead season) (opposed). Same steelhead being caught again and again (upwards of 5-8 times). In the past, the AC preferred to error on the side of conservation. Steelhead fishing is catch and release. Concerned about the mortality of fish that are caught multiple times. Last Department study was in 1982, perhaps due to lack of interest or money. Calling to be cautious of the amount of pressure on the steelhead fishery. When water temperatures and river water drops, pressure is even greater and Mr. Stubbs has noticed that they are extra lethargic during this time and thus extra susceptible. The new proposals are lacking data on the mortality of the steelhead. Wanting to err on the side of caution and conservation. This fishery is as busy and as popular as the king salmon run based on # of cars in the parking lot and the # of people on the river. Asking the Anchorage AC to consider the validity of Proposals 6 & 7.
 - Anchorage AC Comments/Questions: Proposers were present at last Anchorage AC meeting; Anchorage AC thanked Mr. Stubbs for attending and giving his perspective.
 - Proposal # 10 (supports) – bait season on the Kenai Peninsula Rivers.
- Zach Stubbs –
 - Proposal # 10 (author/supports) – bait season in the Kenai Peninsula Rivers. Sheller and Bernstein study (Canada based on ~45,000 fish; an ADF&G study in the early 80's studied ~140 fish). Kenai River is not an actively stocked river like the Anchor River. ADF&G failed or barely made the escapement goals for the Kenai River (in the last 6 years, only met the escapement goals twice). People are catching and releasing kings with bait until they get the big, trophy fish they are looking for. ADF&G prefers to allow bait anytime there is an enhanced river; this proposal is not against the use of bait, but against the option of the catch-and-release king program. This program would apply to everyone on all rivers.
 - Proposal #12 (author/supports) – establishment of a youth king fishery on the Kenai, Kasilof, and Anchor Rivers. This would increase participation in the fisheries in Alaska.

| | | | |
|---|-----------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action | 13 | 1 | <p>Enforcement will be a problem on the Anchor River. Also concerned with the youth fishery form and concerns over the annual bag limit concerns. ADF&G does pursue opportunities to youth fisheries and we should support them in making decision on how and what areas they can manage and handle. There is support from some of the Anchorage AC as youth participation are important and trust that the BOF and/or the ADF&G can work out the details at a later date. Anchorage AC suggests restricting the first mile of the Anchor River to youth fishery. The youth fishery form could be well managed and enforced by ADF&G and law enforcement. ADF&G comments: the Department has several youth fisheries across the State that are largely successful. When the Department does youth fisheries, like hatchery runs areas with safe areas for youth. Concerned with the size and scope of this proposal. ADF&G would look for guidance from the BOF to determine the size of the area for fisheries if the proposal makes it to that stage.</p> |
| BOF | 13 | Create a disabled angler-only fishing area on the Anchor River. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action | 13 | 0 | <p>Support for increasing access opportunities for those less able. The Anchorage AC would give the ADF&G and/or the BOF to work on the details. There is similar access in Homer on the boardwalk. Concerns with the water changing of the Anchor River, but the area proposed (~200 foot area) has historically been the most stable portion of the Anchor River and is fishable water from personal experience. Support the location as proposed. Concerned about regular access to those not disabled, think that it should not be exclusive use area but open to everyone. This is only during the king fishery. ADF&G comments: Ran past the Department of Law; no comments back yet, but BOF does not believe they have the ability to authorize a disability-specific fishery.</p> |

Ahtna proposal deadline is November 28, 2016. If Game subcommittee is going to write a proposal, would like the Anchorage AC to meet and discuss. November 15, 2016 will be another meeting.

Next meeting place and time: Anchorage AC will meet Tuesday, November 15th at 6:30 pm at Cabelas meeting room, located at 155 W 104th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99515.

Adjournment: 9:15pm

Minutes Recorded By: Willow Hetrick

Minutes Approved By: Joel Doner

Date: November 15, 2016

Executive Session Held



Central Kuskokwim Fish & Game Advisory Committee

VIII. New Business:

IX. Other/ Miscellaneous Business:

- **State/ Federal MOU:** AC decided to review material and provide comments to Lisa by Dec. 18
- **Rep for upcoming meeting:** Lisa Feyereisen will attend BOG meeting in Bethel and BOG in Fairbanks, Walter Morgan Alternate; Nick Kamerooff to attend BOF meeting

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, 5:18pm. Passed (Unanimous)

Minutes Recorded By: _____

Minutes Approved By: _____

Date: 12/22/2014

COASTAL LOWER YUKON ADVISORY COMMITTEE



AC05
1 of 3

December 3, 2016
ADF&G Office, 8:30am
570 4th Ave. Bethel, AK

Teleconference: 1.800.504.8071 Code: 5432709


- I. **Call to Order:** Ray Oney, Chair, 8:35am
- II. **Roll Call:** Ray Oney, John Lamont, Daryl Manumik, Eric Olsen
- III. **Approval of Agenda:**
- IV. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve 10/27/2015 meeting minutes.
Motion passed (unanimous)
- V. **Introductions:**
 - a. Fish and Game Staff: Phillip Perry (Unit 18 Wildlife), Patrick Jones (Unit 18 Wildlife), Holly Carroll (Comm. Fish/ Summer Yukon), Jeff Estensen (Comm. Fish/ Fall Yukon), Jen Peeks (Boards Support)
 - b. Other Agency Representatives: Marc Cloward (Alaska State Wildlife Trooper), Ken Stahlnecker (USFWS).
 - c. Members of the Public/ Other:
- VI. **Public Comments/ Testimony:**
- VII. **Old Business:**
- VIII. **New Business:**
 - **2016 Lower Yukon Fishery Report:** ADF&G Comm. Fish
 - Jeff Estensen (ADF&G) reported that 2016 preliminary estimates indicated a run size of 1.4 million fall chum and escapement goals were expected to have been met. Districts 1 and 2 caught approximately 440,000 fall chum salmon in the commercial fishery. Overall, Mr. Estensen reported a good year for fall chum and coho salmon on the Yukon.
 - Holly Carroll (ADF&G) commented that 2016 subsistence reports indicated that people more than doubled their harvest from 2015. Ms. Carroll reported that the Chinook salmon boarder goal with Canada was met. Ms. Carroll commented that the drainage-wide escapement goal for summer chum was expected to have been exceeded and the commercial fishery for summer chum, which was restricted to dipnet and beach seine gear, had a record harvest of summer chum and pink salmon. Ms. Carroll invited the public to share traditional knowledge and information with ADF&G.
 - **Western Region, Game Management Unit 18, BOG Proposals and AC comments:** (See p. 3-4)
 - **ACR 12: Extend the Moose Hunting Season in Unit 18, Kuskokwim Area to September 30.** (See Proposal 160 on p. 4))
 - **Elect AC Representative and Alternate to Attend 2017 BOG/ BOF Meetings.** Ray Oney was elected to attend the BOG meeting in Bethel. Eric Olsen and Daryl Manumik will serve as alternates.
 - **Federal/ State Subsistence MOU Revisions:**
 - **Comments:** John Lamont commented on conservation and mapping projects that occur looking at different issues such as over land traffic and studies on the natural resources. Ray Oney commented that the state and federal governments should be working closely with the tribes; often times the tribes work on projects that the state and federal governments are unaware of. Eric Olsen commented that Elders are very resourceful and the state/ federal governments should be working with the Elders on renewable resources.

- o Committee requested more time to discuss the MOU with their Tribal Council submitting comments.



- Next meeting date: Next face-to-face meeting suggested to occur in Hooper Bay or Emmonak.

| Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting January 6-9, 2017, Bethel | | | |
|--|--|------------------|---|
| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 17 | Change the definition of "edible meat" for game birds | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | Some members discussed possibly amending the proposal to include the entire bird. Members pointed out the importance of subsistence and teaching the younger generation. No friendly amended was added. Proposal was voted on as is. |
| 18 | Reauthorize resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | |
| 21 | Open a winter hunting season for moose in Unit 18 | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | Some of the members commented that residents in the proposal area should be able to go hunt [in the winter] to catch the rest of their quota if they weren't able to hunt earlier [in the season]. |
| 22 | Open a winter nonresident hunting season for moose in Unit 18 remainder | | |
| Support as Amended | 4 | 0 | Some members discussed their concerns that this proposal would bring in more non-local hunters to their region. Other commented that there were enough moose in the area and an additional hunt would be okay. Proposal was supported with the following amendment: Amendment- The proposal will be for an antlerless moose for meat only and for no sport hunters. • AC member Joseph Uisok had left the meeting due to personal reasons. A quorum was still met with 4 members. |
| 23 | Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in the Remainder of Unit 18 | | |
| Support | 4 | 0 | One member commented that if the moose population was good, then they would support the proposal in order for people to fill their freezers. Another member commented that winter was a good time to go hunting for moose. |
| 24 | Allow the harvest of brown bear at bear bait stations in Unit 18 | | |
| Oppose | 1 | 3 | Members discussed that if this proposal passed, there were concerns that it may bring in other people to the area. Some members commented that they did not agree with bear baiting. |
| 25 | Open a nonresident draw hunt for caribou in Units 18 and 19 | | |
| Oppose | 1 | 3 | One member commented in opposition since the herd number had been dwindling and it was important to feed the residents first and not open a nonresident hunt. |
| 156 | Reauthorize the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Intensive Management Plan | | |
| Support | 4 | 0 | |

| | | | | |
|---------|--|---|---|----------------|
| 157 | Set a customary and traditional use finding, and establish seasons and bag limits for En | |  | AC05 3 of 3 |
| Opposed | 0 | 4 | <p>A member commented in opposition considering that local residents had a long period of not being able to harvest them and it is too early to allow this proposal to happen.</p> <p>Other members agreed to oppose.</p> | |
| 160 | Extend the moose season in Unit 18, Kuskokwim Area to September 30 | | | |
| Support | 4 | 0 | <p>One member spoke in support of the proposal and commented that it was hard to hunt in a 10 day season because of weather or other things that may come up. He also pointed out that the moose population had increased in the Kuskokwim area and ONC and other Kuskokwim residents had a good relationship working with Fish and Game.</p> <p>One member discussed that the federal government had their own boards that should be commenting on this proposal and suggested that the State change their openings to occur after the Federal season is closed.</p> | |

IX. Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn at 11:48am. Motion passed (unanimous)

Minutes Recorded By: R. J. Long
 Minutes Approved By: R. J. Long
 Date: 12/10/16

Minutes Recorded By: [Signature]
 Minutes Approved By: [Signature]
 Date: 12/15/16

Cooper Landing Advisory Committee
10/16/16
Cooper Landing Community Hall

- I. Call to Order: 12:10pm by George Heim
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: John Pearson, Todd Donahue, George Heim, Theo Lexmond, Mike Adams, Robert Gibson
Members Absent: Billy Couilliette, Alex Kime, Gerry Neis, Ed Holsten
- Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6
- List of User Groups Present: 1-12
- III. Approval of Agenda: Yes
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Yes
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: None
- VI. Guests Present: Public present: Glen Parker, Dave Atcheson
- VII. Old Business: Federal Subsistence Board proposals- Cooper Landing resident Glen Parker present to encourage members to testify at the SRAC meeting in Anchorage on 10/17.
- VIII. New Business: - Public Comment from David Atcheson, updating Title XVI. All in support.

-MOU: no action

-Upper Cook Inlet Finfish: see table below

-Discussed general concerns:

- Fish count, is it correctly distinguishing species?
- Mainstem Upper Kenai escapment? Upper Kenai River sockeye counter?

| ***** | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|--|
| Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form | | | |
| BOG or BOF | Proposal Number | Proposal Description | |
| Supports or Opposes? | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal |
| BOF | 71 | | Align size restrictions for Dolly Varden and rainbow trout bag limit in the flowing waters of the Kenai River Drainage Area. |
| X <input type="checkbox"/> Support | 6 | | Easier to read the regs, good idea. |

{Pages 2-4 omitted}

Meeting Adjourned 5:00 pm
Next meeting December 10, 2016

Minutes Recorded By: John Pearson
Minutes Approved By: Advisory Committee
Date: 12/10/2016



Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee
11-9-2016
Alpine Lodge

- I. Call to Order: 1836 by Virgil Umphenour
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Kirk Schwalm, Lee Hazen, Mike Tinker, Larry Morris, Virgil Umphenour (Chair), Valerie Baxter (Vice-chair/Secretary), Mike Kramer, Warren Giuchici, Al Barrette, Chuck Derrick, Jeff Lucas, and Vince Holton.

Members Absent: Andrew Glasgow (excused), Bill Larry (excused), Glen Holt (excused)

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: quorum present

List of User Groups Present: Mark Richards, Resident Hunters of Alaska (RHAK)
- III. Approval of Agenda: Approved as amended to include report from Lt. Colonel Bonin and John Haddix, US Army Alaska, and report from Lieutenant Justin Rodgers, Alaska State Troopers.
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved unanimously.
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Don Young, Fairbanks Area biologist; Tony Hollis, Fairbanks Assistant Area Biologist.
- VI. Guests Present: Reed Morisky, Board of Fish; Lt Colonel Bonin, USARAK; John Haddix, Environmental Resources USARAK; Sgt. Dave Valentine and Lt. Justin Rodgers, AST;
- VII. Old Business: None
- VIII. New Business:
 - a. Chair's Comments: Virgil attended the Eastern Region RAC meeting. They discussed predator management and that it is a worthwhile pursuit. There was discussion about increasing the bag limit for Federal Subsistence for the Nelchina herd.
 - b. Other AC Member Comments: Al Barrette attended a presentation on lead contamination and toxicity in big game. Lead present in big game can have deleterious impact on scavengers.



1. Proposal 8: Prohibit nonresident hunting of any prey species under intensive management in the Arctic/Western region until harvest and population objectives are met.
 - a. The AC discussed this proposal and heard from Mark Richards, RHAK, as this is their proposal. Comments from AC members expressed disagreement with the proposal, including that the highest and best use of the resource is not necessarily just use by residents. There were also concerns expressed about the constitutionality of excluding nonresidents in the IM plans – Common Use Clause of the AK constitution. Finally, there were concerns about the long term impacts to removing nonresidents: would there be pushback that could result in setting harvest and population objectives too high to too low such that there would be no predator control or Intensive Management implementation in new areas.
 - b. AC Voted against this proposal with a vote of 10 opposed, 2 abstained.
 2. Proposal 20: Allow the use of crossbows in restricted weapons hunts.
 - a. There was a lot of discussion on this proposal as the use of crossbows remains controversial. It was noted that there will be crossbow safety classes coming in 2017/18. There did seem to be broad support for the proposal as written. There was an amendment proposed that narrowed down the opportunity to use crossbows – the amendment was to allow the use of crossbows in only the ADF&G Targeted Hunts. The amendment passed and subsequently the AC voted unanimously to support the amended proposal 12 in support, 0 opposed.
 3. The rest of the Proposals: The AC voted unanimously to accept the votes of the Game Subcommittee on the rest of the Arctic/Western proposals 12 in support, none opposed.
- h. Proposals to special BOG meeting – Copper Basin Area: the AC discussed the whole situation with the special meeting on moose and caribou hunting in Units 11-12-13. The AC has a history of being against the Community Subsistence Harvest program and its design and implementation. The only recommendation at this time is that splitting up the moose and caribou hunting should be pursued.
 - i. Ethical Standards for Guides – the AC was provided with a proposed regulation change that the Big Game Commercial Services Board would be considering relating to aircraft use in sheep hunting. After discussing the wording and the jurisdiction of the BGCSB, the AC decided to take no action and not provide comments on this proposal.
 - j. Input into Federal – State MOU; there was some discussion about this MOU but not much controversy. The AC decided to take no action or provide comments on the MOU.

**Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting**

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
|--|---|---------------|---|
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 42 | Allow the use of bait for black and brown bear hunting in Unit 23 | | |
| Support | 12 | 0 | We support allowing baiting for both bear species, especially in an area under consideration for Intensive Management. |
| 43 | Allow the use of snowmachines to position and harvest brown bears and furbearers in Unit 23 | | |
| Support As Amended | 12 | 0 | We amended the original proposal by deleting furbearers from the proposed language. We feel that it would negatively impact furbearers, especially wolverine. |
| 44 | Modify the area of the Noatak Controlled Use Area in Unit 23 | | |
| Oppose | 0 | 12 | If the CUA was to be extended by so far a length, than adjustments should be proposed that shortens it on the western end. There should be no net increase in the CUA length. |
| 45 | Require big game hunting camps to be three miles apart within and near the Noatak Controlled Use Area | | |
| Oppose | 0 | 12 | We do not feel that this is within the jurisdiction of the BOG and would be an enforcement nightmare. |

Adjournment: 2152

Minutes Recorded By: Valerie BaxterMinutes (Game Subcommittee) Approved By: ACDate: 11/9/2016



**Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee Meeting & Elections
11/3/2016
Northwest Arctic Borough**

- I. Call to Order:** 7:10 pm by Alex Whiting
- II. Roll Call:**
Members Present: Alex Whiting (Secretary), Enoch Shiedt, Michael Kramer, Pierre Lonewolf, Cyrus Harris
Members Absent: Pete Schaeffer, Victor Karmun, Karmen Monigold, Eugene Smith
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
List of User Groups Present:
- III. Approval of Agenda:**
Cyrus: motioned to approve the agenda
Seconded: Pierre
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** 4/27/16
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present:** Brandon Saito (Wildlife Conservation), Carmen Daggett (Boards)
- VI. Guests Present:** Lew Pagel, Trooper Justin McGinnis, Paul Atkins, Chris Bryant,
- VII. Old Business:**
Elections:

Cyrus: Motioned to open nominations

Mike Kramer: Nominated to keep at status

Pierre: Nominated Lance Kraemer, Seconded: Enoch Sheidt

Pete Schaeffer, Alex Whiting, and Mike Kramer (3 years)

Victor Karmun, Lance Kramer, Eugene Smith (2 year terms)

Motioned by: Cyrus Harris

Seconded by: Mike Kramer

Pete Schaeffer: Chair

Alex Whiting: Secretary and Vice Chair



Lance Kramer: Would like to review predator control. It would help with the calving situation for both species. Predators should take a hit not just human take. We should be out there increasing take of predators. The State might as well do predator control since they are going to be rich from the new license fee increase.

Mike Kramer: The RAC motioned to close all federal lands to non-federally qualified subsistence users for moose hunting and it is going to be considered by the FSB. Predators need to be reduced. There were a lot of bears this year were shot along the Kobuk River that were stealing caribou from hunters boats and camps. I really encourage the sale of hides and skulls. There are some villages that are really out hammering the wolves. I know I will be up on the Kobuk this year. Predators need to be hammered first, before we need to be reducing take and put non-residents on the lottery.

Alex: If we going to move on further resident restrictions, we definitely need to take out non-resident harvest. Inquires about the number of moose that non-residents take.

Brandon: Explains residents are taking the majority of moose that are being harvested.

Alex: The first thing that should go is non-resident harvest, then shortening the season, and/or other adjustments to residents since bag limit is only 1 per year.

Atamuk: We saw over sixty wolves in Kiana the predators are still in big numbers.

Alex: Explains state versus federal approach to predator control, in that the Feds do not allow it and the majority of lands are federal in the region.

Carmen Daggett: Presented information on the MOU, Alex Whiting offered to spearhead comments on the MOU – need more time to review.

| Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting January 6-9, 2017, Bethel | | | |
|--|--|------------------|--|
| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 1 | Evaluate a separate amount reasonably necessary for subsistence for the Teshekpuk caribou herd | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | Believe the BOG should re-evaluate combining the WACH and the TCH for the purpose of an ANS finding. |
| 2 | Modify the hunt structure of the Western Arctic and Teshekpuk caribou herds | | |
| No Action | | | Having a caribou registration hunt would allow for collection of more data which would be helpful to monitor the herd during this period of decline and increased regulations, as long as it was not implemented |



| Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting January 6-9, 2017, Bethel | | | |
|--|---|------------------|---|
| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action Neutral | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 42 | Allow the use of bait for black and brown bear hunting in Unit 23 | | |
| Support | 4 | 1 | One member expressed it was not fair method of harvest, the rest agreed if some people wanted to hunt this way then okay since it would encourage bear hunting in the region which is needed to reduce numbers and help moose. Also agreed it would need rules in place like signage and other similar parameters to do it safely and in a structured manner. |
| 43 | Allow the use of snowmachines to position and harvest brown bears and furbearers in Unit 23 | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | This is needed for the same reasons the original proposal was put in place for caribou, wolves and wolverines, which has shown to have had no noticeable impact on conservation as was predicted by proposers during the discussion over caribou, wolves and wolverines. |
| 44 | Modify the area of the Noatak Controlled Use Area in Unit 23 | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | We support the community of Noatak in controlling the impact to their hunting grounds |
| 45 | Require big game hunting camps to be three miles apart within and near the Noatak Controlled Use Area | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | We support the community of Noatak in controlling the impact to their hunting grounds |

Lance Kramer nominated to attend the Board of Game meeting.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Alex Whiting

Minutes Approved By: [Signature]

Date: 11/10/16



Lower Kobuk Advisory Committee Meeting & Elections
12/21/16/2016
Noorvik IRA

- I. Call to Order: 11:38 pm
- II. Roll Call: Glenn Miller, Larry Westlake (Vice Chair), Bill Zibell, Wilbur Howarth Sr., Lonnie Tebbits
Members Absent: Leonard Brown
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
List of User Groups Present:
- III. Approval of Agenda:
Bill Moved
Seconded: Wilbur
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: 12/8/16
Glenn: Motioned to adopt minutes
Lonnie: Seconded
Minutes Approved
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brandon Saito (Wildlife Conservation), Carmen Daggett (Boards), Jill Klein (Liason)
- VI. Guests Present: Garfield Sampson, Les Sampson, Pauline Cleveland
- VII. Old Business:
Public Comments & Concerns:

Pauline Cleveland: Asked questions about non local hunters and regulations and surrounding non-local hunters and fisherman.

Elections:

Wilbur Howard: Nominate Lee Ballot Sr., Lonnie Tebbits
Lonnie Tebbits: Nominate Bill Zibell
Bill Zibell: Nominated Billy Mullik
Larry Westlake: Chair, Lee Ballot: Vice Chair, and Secretary: Glenn Miller
Seconded: Lonnie Tebbits
- VIII. New Business:
Brandon Saito: Western Arctic Caribou Herd Update
Wilbur Howarth: Explains the scheduled flights go directly up the river
Larry Westlake: Explains other flights that occur on the hunting season
I think the hunting season on the Kobuk is very short we should put in something like that.
Every little thing is important.
Les Sampson: Expresses concern about how caribou are counted.



Glenn Miller: Inquires about the predation around the young calves. Explains about the numbers of wolves in the area. I haven't seen any grizzly bears around this fall. We have seen lots of wolves.

Brandon: Explains the calving ground information and calf survival. Calf recruitment is higher than adult mortality.

Bill Zibell: Inquires about what percentage of cows come back through Onion Portage? I was wondering if we should be collaring in other areas. They cross at Soniqtuq every year it is consistent. How many are you collaring and what is the survival rate? Most of the animals are dying from natural mortality.

Brandon Saito: Moose Update explains 7500 moose population with harvestable surplus around 650 moose.

Larry Westlake: I think our caribou herd has been going further and further South predators have been high around Selawik. The RAC is already proposing to close federal public lands. You close one area and it concentrates people on the State Lands. That is going to affect us even more in this area. It is going to have to be the whole region to shut it down. We don't know how much it is going to help the caribou herd, I think it will help the moose, not sure on the caribou.

Bill Zibell: Inquires how many non-resident permits are being issued and how many of them are guided?

Brandon: Not all of the permits get used there is about 6 guided permits.

Bill Zibell: There are a lot more Kotzebue people coming up to hunt moose, 500% increase in moose numbers. Not sure what their success rate.

Brandon: Explains the projections from 2500 moose before and 1500 moose is the projection if it follows the same pattern as the Selawik. 450 is the harvestable surplus and the ANS is 350-400 moose.

Glenn Miller: when we look at the Noatak drainage, there are a lot of people from Kotzebue staying and camping and harvesting. There is a lot of traffic from Kotzebue.

Brandon Saito: Explains the Delta has one of the lowest bull:cow ratios. Our bull:cow ratios are still 40 bulls:100 cows, calf recruitment is good.

Lee: I think our moose harvest success was exceptionally good, almost everyone got a moose. The traffic held us up until we were able to get caribou.

Garfield: Inquires about the RM880.

MOU DISCUSSION:

Larry Westlake: Inquires about item 6, what kind of studies does the state and feds have on predator control, we have a problem with a declined herd the public has to know what is going. We don't know what is going on really.



Jill Klein: The FSB has their own predator philosophy on section 2 on the Guiding Principles.

Glenn Miller: I have been up here a long time and I mainly deal with Fish and Game, explains polar bear studies We have a large percentage of federal lands in the area and research happening but that information is not being shared at the ground level. Inquires about a liason with the general public meetings. Requests more data sharing between the state and federal governments with the general public.

| Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting January 6-9, 2017, Bethel | | | |
|--|--|---------------|---|
| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 1 | Evaluate a separate amount reasonably necessary for subsistence for the Teshekpuk caribou herd | | |
| Support | 6 | 0 | Glenn: Motioned to support Bill: Seconded |
| 2 | Modify the hunt structure of the Western Arctic and Teshekpuk caribou herds | | |
| Support | 6 | 0 | Glenn Miller: Offers to help disseminate information as a vendor. Bill: Moved Seconded: Lonnie Discussion: Need to have a lot of dissemination work and public education. |
| 3 | Remove the exception to harvest tickets and reports for caribou | | |
| Support | 6 | 0 | Glenn: Motion to support |
| 4 | Institute no-fly zones for caribou hunting in Units 21D, 22, 23, 24, & 26A | | |
| Opposed | 0 | 6 | Larry Westlake: This won't work about us, we are weekend hunters. The altitude restriction worked better. Bill Zibell: Explains it is better if they don't buzz the caribou. Brandon Saito: Explains the differences in control on lands. Larry Westlake: There were lots of people landing on the sandbars and landing on state lands in federal closure areas. If maybe on the South Side like we proposed. Glenn Miller: We should write a proposal to fine if they aren't following the pilot orientation. Brandon: Harassing wildlife is illegal, meat care if done poorly. Larry Westlake: We don't have a no fly zone. Lee Ballot: Can we make a recommendation on altitude. A lot of these folks are not caring what day it is they are catching the migration. Brandon: If they get their caribou early. Bill Zibell: Asking pilots to be more courteous when they are flying. Glenn Miller: Motioned to oppose Lee Ballot: Seconded Opposed |



Glenn: Explains the logistical management and people need to be honest. I know in Kiana people are good, but there are lot of people coming in and exerting outside pressure.

Lee: Even if we change it to four a day, I don't think it will be changing anything.

Bill: I think the season cap is something to think about.

Glenn: I think our community is supportive of each other and our young guys are really good.

I would be willing to write a proposal. Look at the personal cap.

Larry Westlake: I am thinking about four a day, and maybe consider a cap later if we need it.

Bill: Talked about the 1970s and the caribou decline and the restrictions that occurred during the time period. Cut a little at a time is better than a huge bang.

Glenn Miller: We could do some predator control.

Larry Westlake: We need to put a bounty on wolves. There were a group of caribou that were chased by black bears, then brown bears and then 40 wolves.

Bill Zibell: Explains you would need about \$1000 per wolf in order to get people. Wolves are the most difficult to trap.

Larry Westlake: Some pilots made good money doing.

Bill Zibell: Explains stories from old time bounty hunting for wolves.

Adjournment: 3:06 pm

Minutes Recorded By: _____
Minutes Approved By: glenn a miller
Date: 12/21/2016



**DRAFT AGENDA: MID-LOWER YUKON
FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 16-17, 2016
St. Mary's, Community Hall, 1:00pm
Teleconference: 1.800.504.8071 Code: 5432709**

CALL TO ORDER: Stanislaus Sheppard, Chair 1:18pm

INVOCATION: Evan Polty Sr.

ROLL CALL TO CONFIRM A QUORUM: Quorum established.

Members Present: William Alstrom, Stan Sheppard, Evan Polty Sr., Stanley John Peters, Peter Tyson and Mildred Fitka (excused at 2:52pm).

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES:

- **ADF&G Staff:** Phillip Perry (Wildlife, Unit 18), Holly Carroll (Comm. Fish, Summer Yukon), Jeff Estensen (Comm. Fish, Fall Yukon), Jen Peeks (Boards Support)
- **Other Agency:** Jennifer Hooper (AVCP)
- **Members of the Public:** Charles Prince, John Aguviak, Erik Weingarth, Mike McFee, Walter Sipary, Isaac Prince, Melvin Paukan, Cliff Westdahl, George Beans Sr.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda: Motion passed (Unanimous)

SECRETARY REPORT:

- **Approval of Nov. 16-17, 2015 meeting minutes (Tabled until 2:20pm):** Motion to approve Nov. 16-17, 2015 meeting minutes by Bill Alstrom, 2nd by Evan Polty Sr.: Motion passed (Unanimous).

Discussion regarding moose harvest concerns during the AC meeting on Nov. 16-17, 2015. Members were unsure if the proposals had been finalized and submitted. Bill Alstrom had submitted two proposals to the Federal Subsistence Board, but they were lost in the mail. Jen Peeks would follow-up with Sherry Wright.

- **Mildred Fitka was elected Secretary**

CHAIR REPORT:

AGENCY REPORTS:

- **ADF&G Divisions:**
 - **Commercial Fisheries:**
 - Holly Carroll (Lower Yukon Summer Season Manager) provided an overview of the 2016 summer salmon season. Preliminary data indicated that the 2016 harvest was better than 2015. William Alstrom reported that the test fishery had been helpful.



- Jeff Estensen (Lower Yukon Fall Season Manager) reviewed preliminary data for the fall fishery. He reported that 2016 was a good year for fall chum and that escapement goals for both fall chum and coho salmon were expected to be met.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY:

- **George Beans:** Mr. Beans discussed concerns regarding the September moose hunts and the increase in sport hunters to the area. He was concerned about losing stud bulls and suggested the committee make a proposal for harvesting bulls with 50 inches or less. Mr. Beans also spoke in opposition to Proposal 22.
- **Erik Weingarh:** Mr. Weingarh discussed concerns regarding the sale of game antlers and the waste of meat. He suggested that the committee create proposals to address these issues.
- **Leonard Landlord:** Mr. Landlord commented that some sport hunters were disrespectful.
- **Jennifer Hooper:** Ms. Hooper (AVCP) introduced herself as the replacement for Tim Andrews at AVCP in the Natural Resource Department.
- **Melvin Paukan:** Mr. Paukan discussed the increase in non-local big game hunters in the area.
- **John Aguviak:** Mr. Aguviak agreed with the other members of the public regarding big game hunting. He suggested that the committee restrict the sale of antlers from a harvested moose.
- **The AC committee discussed the need to meet in January 2017 telephonically to formalize proposals to address concerns regarding selling of antlers, wasting game meat and the increase in big game hunting.**

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- Western Region, Game Management Unit 18, BOG Proposals and AC comments: (*See page 3*)
- Elect AC representative(s) to attend the upcoming 2017 BOG/ BOF meetings:
 - **Evan Polty Sr.** of Pilot Station will attend the Jan. 6-9 BOG meeting in Bethel and represent the AC committee.
- **Federal/ State MOU Revisions: Committee Comments**
 - Stan Shephard commented that it is important that people living in a region had a say in the [fish and game] regulations. Elders from each region know, they know how the weather works.
 - Stanley John Peters commented on the changes in moose population over the years. He pointed out that if people don't watch what they are doing now, they will have nothing [in the future]. Mr. Peters also commented that people [in the region] lived in the environment.
 - William Alstrom commented on how things have changed over the years. He noted that the Federal and State governments were doing a good job but the regulations were hard to enforce and there could be better coordination between state and federal lands.



- Peter Tyson commented that he would like to see a bigger enforcement presence.
- ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries 2016 Yukon River season overview: (Provided under Agency Reports.)

| Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting | | | |
|--|--|---------------|--|
| January 6-9, 2017, Bethel | | | |
| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 17 | Change the definition of "edible meat" for game birds | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | |
| 18 | Reauthorize resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | |
| 21 | Open a winter hunting season for moose in Unit 18 | | |
| No Action | | | Members wanted to abstain from voting on this proposal due to not knowing and living in the area the proposal would affect. |
| 22 | Open a winter nonresident hunting season for moose in Unit 18 remainder | | |
| Oppose | 0 | 4 | 1 absent (stepped out of meeting) |
| 23 | Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in the Remainder of Unit 18 | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | |
| 24 | Allow the harvest of brown bear at bear bait stations in Unit 18 | | |
| Oppose | 0 | 5 | Some members were concerned that if people on private lands allowed baiting it may entice more people to come in and hunt in the area. |
| 25 | Open a nonresident draw hunt for caribou in Units 18 and 19 | | |
| Oppose | 0 | 5 | |

NEXT MEETING:

- January 2017, Teleconference, Agenda Items: Discuss concerns regarding moose antlers and wasting game meat. Draft a proposal for the next BOG meeting. Have Phillip Perry attend for assistance.
- Meeting Nov. 6-11, 2017 Fall Face-to-Face in St. Mary's.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 5:10pm by William Alstrom, 2nd by Peter Tyson.
Motion Passed (Unanimous)

Minutes Recorded By: W. AlstromMinutes Approved By: P. TysonDate: 12-21-16



Meeting Minutes
Naknek/Kvichak Fish and Game Advisory Committee
November 10, 2016
Bristol Bay Borough Council Chambers

- I. Call to Order: 7:03pm by Chair William Regan Jr.
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Everett Thompson, George Wilson Jr., William Reagan Jr., Marc Watson, Joe Klutsch, Gustie Tallekpalek, Ralph Zimmin, Richard Wilson,
Members Absent: Joey Klutsch, John Wise, Brian Cato (alt), Greg Harris (alt).
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6
- III. Approval of Agenda: Everett moved to approve the agenda, Marc 2nd. 7-0 passed
- IV. Fish and Game Staff Present: Dave Crowley, Chris Peterson, Taryn O'Connor-Brito
- V. Guests Present: Steve Jones, John Rhyshek
- VI. Elections for AC Alternates: William Reagan asked to table until next meeting as not enough public participation. 7-0 passed
- VII. **New Business:**
Discussed Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Subsistence Board and the State of Alaska- We felt that we needed to see the recently revised draft after the state, federal agencies had a get together to discuss this MOU before we would act on it. The AC members all felt the importance of this document and in good spirit of working with both the state and federal agencies this board like the idea of this document. Joe Klutsch said that we have until November 18 to submit comments to which he personally was going to comment. The draft MOU was put on our next AC meeting in old business.

Ptarmigan- Dave Crowley discussed with the board the current population decline and the threat of low population numbers for years to come. The staff felt snow cover thru the winters, rainy spring weather was a huge factor in the population decline.
Everett made a motion for Fish and Game to put out an announcement to communities that Ptarmigan numbers are low and to only shoot if you must feed your family with them, Marc 2nd, AC supported unanimously. Dave with fish and game will look into this matter further for the health of Ptarmigan population.



Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
|--|---|---------------|---|
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 156 | Formerly ACR 6: Renew Mulchatna Caribou Heard Predation Management Area Intensive Management Program | | |
| Support | 7 | 0 | The AC all felt this is a great tool for the staff to use in helping the caribou population recover |
| 157 | Formerly ACR 7: Open a general/subsistence hunt for emperor geese in Units 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 22, and 23 and establish a Customary and Traditional Use finding. | | |
| Support | 7 | 0 | Full support to this proposal. |

Alaska Board of Game Interior Region Meeting

Feb. 17-25, 2017, Fairbanks

| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
|--|--|---------------|---|
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 153 | Reauthorize resident brown bear tag fee exemptions in the Central/Southwest Region | | |
| Support | 7 | 0 | |

Adjournment: 8:30pm

Minutes Recorded By: George Wilson Jr.

Minutes Approved By: William Reagan Jr.

Date: 11/11/2016



Northern Norton Sound AC
12/6/16
Pioneer Igloo, Nome, AK

- I. Call to Order: 1507hrs by Chairman Charles Lean
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Charlie Lean Chairman, Adem Boeckmann, Kevin Knowlton Secretary, Nate Perkins, Daniel Stang, Tom Gray, Charlie Saccheus, Clifford Seetook, Jack Fagerstrom, Davis Lincoln, Stanley Tocktoo, , Brandon Ahmasuk, Sara Okbaok
Members Absent: William Kakoona, Paul Kosto Vice Chairman
Number Needed for Quorum on AC:8, 13 present Quorum requirements met.
List of User Groups Present: Commercial Fishing and Crabbing, Subsistence Hunting and Fishing, NSEDC, Nome Eskimo, Kawerak,
- III. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Kevin Knowlton, second by Adem Boeckmann to approve agenda with the following additions: off shore mining concerns and beach mining and cigar fish habitat, switch items, 6 & 7, add discussion fall moose hunt 22B, Stanley Tocktoo explains Teller didn't get moose. Motion passes Unanimous.
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: 4/5/16 & 1/20/16
4/5/16
Motioned: Tom Gray
Nate Perkins: Seconded
Minutes approved Unanimous
1/20/16
Motioned: Nate Perkins
Seconded: Tom Gray
Minutes approved Unanimous
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present:
Letty Hughes, William Dunker, Carmen Daggett, Jim Menard, Kari Rasmussen
- VI. Guests Present:
Dan Reed, Jacob Martin (Nome Eskimo), Lucas Frost (Nome Public Schools), Brian Ubelakel (BLM), Eric Osborn, Ken Keith (NSEDC FR&D), Ashley Dunker (NSEDC Fishery Biologist), David Evans
- VII. Old Business:
- VIII. New Business:
- IX. Elections:
 - a. Nominations: Charlie Lean, Edward Stang, Tom Gray, Nate Perkins, Adem Boeckmann, Kevin Knowlton, Lucas Frost, Dan Reed, David Evans.
 - b. Results: Tom Gray, Adem Boeckmann, Nate Perkins, Charlie Lean, Lucas Frost, Edward Stang, and Kevin Knowlton. New members seated.



- e. Kevin Keith: Explains the benefit of the winter fishery for people who don't have boats and the winter CDQ give opportunity for people to make money during the winter.
- f. Tom Gray: What has the winter fishery has taken as far as out of the 80,000. Usually they are five percent or less. In recent years what number would we have to go to if we didn't use the CDQ.
- g. Charlie Lean: Explains that we were concerned about the trend of increased winter harvest and the impacts multiplying on subsistence in particular.
- h. Tom Gray: How can we give the winter crab fishery more of a life. I am trying to speak on behalf of the winter subsistence crab fishery and how we get a stable winter crab fishery in the future. The NSEDC number is the 8%.
- i. Charlie Lean: Explains the CDQ the GHL and the stability of the ice, the market, and before there was no upper limit during the winter fishery.

MOU: Charlie Lean: Explains MOUs

Charlie Lean: I don't think anyone has read this, I have not.

Kevin Knowlton: Suggests tabling the MOU till the next AC meeting.

Charlie Lean: I am hesitant to write a letter on my own and pretend to speak for the rest.

Nate Perkins: I think we move to take no action.

Bill Dunker: Inquires any input or guidance in how the new permitting system is working in this region. In order to assist managers in Unit 23 and 26A.

Charlie Lean: Explained frustration about the lack of the need for conservation from the board coming out of the RAC meetings. We and Southern Norton Sound ACs cut back harvest and other interests said thanks we will take that caribou.

Adem Boeckmann: Explains his understanding of conflicts on the river and inquiries about curiosity of how that Unit 23 closure conflicts happened.

Tom Gray: Is Fish and Game talking about Intensive Management for the WACH?

Charlie Lean: Several of us were talking about predators on calves. Ravens and foxes would be a significant predators on calves it would be good to know some of these lesser known predators. What predator works that age class of animals.

Adem Boeckmann: It is interesting you mention raven's we can really bumped up raven populations.

Stanley Tocktoo: We find dead fawns they are being killed by the elements, the calves are just frozen. I take them home.

Tom Gray: The bears are getting a bad rap, when there is something wolves are playing big role up.

Jack Fagerstrom: I heard this old elder talk about wolves that kill for sport. The wolf needs to be recognized as a significant predator.



Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
|--|---|------------------|---|
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 32 | Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 22A | | |
| No Action | | | |
| 244 | | | |
| 245 | Extend the closure line North of the Northern Norton Sound Section commercial king crab fishery from 64 15'N Latitude | | |
| Opposed | 0 | 13 | <p>Motion to Support: Jack Fagerstrum Second: Adem Boeckmann Jim Menard: Department is neutral Charlie Lean: Explains the original intent of the current regulation. To reduce the impact on the winter crab fishery as a result of the summer crab fishery. The majority of people were affecting Golovin and White Mountain according to Roy Ashenfelter. They wrote a proposal to put the line there and that is why it is there today. Charlie: I believe this AC supported this boundary. Adem Boeckmann: I continue to support this line, I still have concerns the crab get into open water sooner there than in Nome. I can't tell you about the last trawl survey, if I read them correctly, 70% of the crab biomass resides Cape Nome West, 70% of the harvest over there. I have concerns about increasing opportunity of 70% harvest on 30% of the biomass. Nate Perkins: Explains that the original line was moved to support subsistence crabbers. Tom Gray: I think the line should stay where it is. The impacts were that we used to be able to get 30-40 crabs in a day now we get 3-5 crabs a day. Jack Fagerstrom: Explains what it used to be now Charlie Lean: I am not hearing any one speaking in favor of this proposal.</p> |
| 246 | Add a definition for crab rakes as legal subsistence fishing gear | | |
| Support | 13 | 0 | <p>Motion to Support: Tom Gray Second: Kevin Knowlton Charlie Lean explained that this is a common means of harvesting Hanasaki crab out of the rocks by residence of St. Lawrence Island. Adem Boeckmann: I think it is an established method and means in Norton Sound and Chukchi sea too Stanley Tocktoo: Explained how they use a similar tool to harvest crab through the ice while hand lining.</p> |

Advisory committee: votes to send Charlie to the WACH, BOG, and BOF meetings.

Nate Perkins is the alternate, Adem Boeckmann would do the crab in March 2017 if needed.

Adjournment: 7:38 pm

Minutes Recorded By: Christine R. HaysMinutes Approved By: [Signature]Date: 12/21/2016

Dear Ms. Klein

The Petersburg Advisory Committee met on November 17, 2016 to discuss and comment on the draft MoU.

No Federal subsistence representatives were able to attend. The committee discussed the contents, nature and history of the MoU. Many AC members had little knowledge of the Federal agencies and how they are involved in subsistence. It was a good opportunity for many of us to learn. The public Federal process was a bit of a mystery as well. There is a perception that the Federal agencies involved in subsistence sometimes operate in a non-transparent and heavy-handed way regardless of the wording of the MoU.

As the MoU was explored we realized that it was too general and non-binding to generate strong opinions from the AC members about the wording of the document. The sentiment was that on the one hand, yes, it is a needed document because it sets a tone of cooperation at layers high above the AC. On the other hand, it doesn't offer anything remotely useful at our local AC level.

Two specific examples of State and Federal agencies jointly governing the same population of fish and game were discussed. The Stikine river subsistence sockeye fishery, and the designated hunter program for deer on Mitkof island.

There seemed to be the belief among the AC members that the State works hard to actively manage for sustainable fisheries and game populations, while the Federal agencies sometimes step in and make politically driven decisions that can work against sustainable management practices and then these Federal agencies go back into hibernation.

Since no one especially qualified from ADF&G or a Federal agency was present to discuss Stikine sockeye issues, deer hunting was used as a topic to explore the interaction of State and Federal policies.

The generous Federal designated hunter program was a concern to some AC members since it made deer bag limits on Mitkof island somewhat ineffective as a tool to rebuild the deer population. Almost any hunter can scrape up more deer tags than he or she can use under the Federal program. The only other management alternative was to shorten the season and this has been a hardship for local hunters who are working or traveling during the two week deer season. Those who can only hunt one or two weekends might feel that it is unfair or at least unnecessary for another hunter to be out tagging multiple deer for his or her young children who have never even hunted before. In this case the State designated hunter program with its disability and age requirements seems more sensible when trying to rebuild a deer population. But when possible remedies were discussed there was a feeling that a well intentioned proposal to tighten up the Federal designated hunter program in a specific area could backfire and some heavy-handed Federal decision such as shutting down all non-subsistence hunting on the island might ensue instead.

AC members seemed wary, distrustful and generally negative toward Federal involvement in the Mitkof island deer hunt. Are the Feds engaged in the sustainability of the deer population here on Mitkof island? No, they are making it hard to rebuild. Do we want them to be engaged? No, that might be worse.

Perhaps in this discussion someone can glean some input from this AC as to how there "could be better coordination between State and Federal agencies an the fish and wildlife management for subsistence

uses on Federal public lands in Alaska.” We could not articulate anything directly toward the draft MoU. Nor did we think it would matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Martin, Petersburg AC Secretary



Southern Norton Sound AC
12/8/16
Community Hall, Unalakleet, AK

- I. Call to Order: 12:14 pm by Wade Ryan
- II. Roll Call: Wade Ryan (Chair), Jacob Ivanoff, Matilda Hardy, Morris Nassuk, Peter Martin Sr., Frank Katchatag, Stebbins seats Vacant, Wes Jones, Milton Cheemuk
Members Present: Wade Ryan (Chair), Jacob Ivanoff, Matilda Hardy, Morris Nassuk, Peter Martin Sr.
Members Absent: Frank Katchatag, Stebbins seats Vacant, Wes Jones, Milton Cheemuk
Number Needed for Quorum on AC:5
List of User Groups Present: Subsistence users and Commercial fisherman

Matilda made comments regarding Mr. Sookiyak's passing. He served on the SNAC for several years.

- III. Approval of Agenda: Moved by Morris seconded by Matilda motion approved

Morris moved to approve the Stebbins Alternate Matilda seconded motion passed
Jacob made a motion to have a moment of silent for Mike Sookiayak seconded by Wade motion passed
Matilda gave invocation
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: 2/8/16 Moved by Matilda seconded by Jacob motion passed
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present:
Letty Hughes (DWC), William Dunker (DWC), Carmen Daggett (Boards Support), Brendon Scanlon (Sport Division), Jim Menard (Commercial Division)
- VI. Guests Present: Arley Nanounk, Renae Ivanoff, Gary Eckenweiler, Alfred Commack
Gary Eckenweiler stated that it would be helpful to use rod and reel as a mean as a subsistence tool for Chinook salmon. They catch more Chinook utilizing a set net over rod and reel. Jacob mentioned that this was discussed in the pass and we were not in support of the idea due to the guiding operation on the Unalakleet River but we were in favor for the Northern Region

Lillian said hello to the committee.
- VII. Old Business:
No old business
- VIII. New Business:



Letty Hughes gave an overall view of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd (WACH). She stated that there was an estimated 201,000. Wade asked why it was implement and when I was in effect. Letty explained what happened. Jacob stated that he and Charlie Lean asked to change to the permitting requirements to prevent hunters from becoming criminals.

Wade asked about the moose in the Unalakleet Drainage and Letty stated that they attempted to do surveys the past two years but the lack of snow prevented them from doing the survey. The department completed and bull cow ratio last week and the numbers are preliminary.

Renae asked how to access the permit for caribou hunting. Letty stated that you can get them at any vendors or at line.

Wade stated that if you want to obtain your hunting permit at the cost of this year, you will need to purchase them prior to December 31st. The cost of permits in 2017 is going to increase.

Alfred asked about the numbers of the moose survey, Letty told him that in 2013 there were 543 and they are still working on the numbers from last week's survey.

Jill Klien gave an overview of the MOU between the State of Alaska and the Federal Government. Wade had some questions regarding the purpose of the MOU. Jill explained that it was a coordination between the two entities.

Morris primary for BOG and Matilda as Alternate
Wes primary for BOF and Wade as Alternate



Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

| Proposal Number | Proposal Description | | |
|--|---|------------------|---|
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| Action | | | |
| 30 | Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 22C | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | Jacob moved to supported by Matilda |
| 31 | Increase the bag limit for brown bear in Unit 22B | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | Matilda moved to support seconded by Morris. Wade said that he supports more hunting of bears |
| 32 | Lengthen the hunting season for brown bear in Unit 22A | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | Matilda moved to support seconded by Jacob. Wade said that with the sea ice lingering around during the spring hinders the hunting time |
| 245 | Extend the closure line North of the Northern Norton Sound Section commercial king crab fishery from 64 15'N Latitude | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | Jacob moved to support seconded by Matilda. Jacob stated he supports the proposal because it should be fair to all crabbers. |
| 246 | Add a definition for crab rakes and allow crab rakes as lawful subsistence shellfish gear north of Cape Newenham. | | |
| Support | 5 | 0 | Matilda moved to support seconded by Wade. |
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Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: *[Signature]*Minutes Approved By: *[Signature]*Date: 12/22/16Prop 244
No action

Prop 245

Prop 246



**Upper Kobuk Advisory Committee Meeting & Elections
12/20/2016
Shungnak IRA**

- I. Call to Order: 11:02 am
- II. Roll Call: Bryan Jones, Shield Downey, Murphy Custer, Louie Commack
Elected: Nellie Greist, Merle Custer, Mike Atkins, Re-Elected Murphy Custer and Bryan Jones
Members Absent: Rosa Horner, Alvin Williams
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
List of User Groups Present: Subsistence users
- III. Approval of Agenda:
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: 12/11/15 minutes approved
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brandon Saito (Wildlife Conservation), Carmen Daggett (Boards)
- VI. Guests Present:
- VII. Public Comments and concerns:
Nellie Griest: Wolves abundant, everyone has to start hunting wolves before they have pups in the spring time. Mentioned wolf bounties.
Billy Lie: Inquires about transporters.
Louie Commack: everyone is happy with the caribou they got in the villages.
- VIII. Old Business:
Elections:

Shungnak Seat Filled
Nellie Griest 7/2019
Merle Custer 7/2019

Kobuk
Murphy Custer 7/2019

Ambler
Bryan Jones 7/2019
Mike Atkins 7/2019
- IX. New Business:
- X. Western Arctic Caribou Herd Update: Brandon Saito, 201,000 caribou is the current population numbers, 235,000 caribou was the previous level.
 - a. Billie Lie: Inquires about who makes the decisions about how many caribou we get to harvest?
- XI. Moose Update: 7,500 moose currently, 450 harvestable surplus, the Selawik population has declined. Calf production has gone up, up to 17 calves:100 adults. Bull:cow ratios are staying high. 47bulls:100 cows, 43 bulls:100 cows so it doesn't look the moose are getting overharvesting. Moose can be really susceptible to harvest, when the population is declining the last thing you want to do is be taking cows. Last year 21 cows were taken and before it was 15 cows a year.
Billy Lie: Explains the large populations.



Shield Downey: Explains moose permits from fly in hunters. We should have more concern % take by fly in hunts versus local people hunting. Our cost of fuel is really high when we talk about a reduction in take because those families don't have access mobility we have to consider all of those.

Brandon Saito: 300 local users and 60-70 from non-local hunters.

Shield Downey: Not the same level of harvest is happening

Bryan Jones: Inquires about how close we are to the point we need to curb the harvest. Our villages are growing. How close are we to the threshold.

Brandon Saito: Explains being proactive versus reactive. How can we have people work together at Onion Portage.

Bryan Jones: Where do we look to find resources, maybe we need to start thinking about reindeer herding.

Louie Commack: Explains the observed declines, and we have super packs of wolves and we might have to decide possibly reducing to 3 caribou a day.

Brandon Saito: Explains the balance of gas.

Louie Commack: We are declining it is worrisome.

Billy: we can't afford beef or chicken.

I know there was a decline in the caribou we used to hunt every year between here and Ambler. 2-3 caribou is not enough for a family of 10 people. I didn't understand the results of cutting down to five per day. Still the caribou are declining.

Billy: Inquires migration patterns, I have a feeling we are going to have the same problem as people from the Teshekpuk once we get from the Ambler road.

Shield: I have been opposed to that Ambler Road. It is going to change migrations and harvest rates. We need to think very carefully when we agree to any kind of development. I am scared for our people. We are going to be putting our resources in jeopardy. We need to think this out carefully. I think the season changes are a good thing. We need to think about this very carefully it is serious business.

Louie Commack: I sit on the gates of the subsistence resource commission we are talking 5-10,000 hunters per fall.

MOU Discussion: Billy Lie: Inquires about tribal governments. Would like to see tribal consultation, Maniilaq tribal affairs committee, RAC. This is something our two representatives that can speak on behalf of the tribes.

Nellie Griest: Inquires about how to replace Sally Custer on the Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group.

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| 1 | Evaluate a separate amount reasonably necessary for subsistence for the Teshekpuk caribou herd | | |
| Support | 7 | 0 | Shield: Caribou don't choose where they want to go, reindeer assimilated with |



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| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number Support | Number Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal |
| 45 | Require big game hunting camps to be three miles apart within and near the Noatak Controlled Use Area | | |
| Support | 7 | 0 | Merle: motion to support Seconded: Louie |

Shield Downey will go to the BOG.
Adjournment: 1:22 pm

Minutes Recorded By: Carmen Daggett
Minutes Approved By: *[Signature]*

Date: 12/20/16

[Signature]