### ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

# Committee Meeting Regarding Unit 19C Dall Sheep Webconference | December 28, 2023

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### Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee December 6, 2023 Burchelle High School

I. Call to Order: 7:01 pm by Herb Mansavage, chair

### II. Roll Call

### **Members Present:**

Herb Mansavage, chair

Dan Montgomery, vice chair wildlife

Gene Sandone, vice chair fisheries

Neil DeWitt

**Dominic Nickles** 

Hunter Hongslo

**Danny Lewis** 

**Bob Casell** 

Andy Couch

Casey Dinkle

Austin Manelick

### **Members Absent:**

Aaron Bloomquist

Birch Yuknis

Chad Schierman (resigned)

Chad Lipse (resigned)

### **Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8**

### **III.** Fish and Game Staff Present:

Israel Payton, Director, Sport Fish Division Samantha Oslund, Assistant AMB, Northern Cook Inlet, Sport Fish Division

### **IV.** Guests Present:

Nick Weeks

Lew Weeks

Tod Henniger

Bill Schevk

Ed Soto

**Bruce Privett** 

Noel Lowe

Joshua Yundt

Manny Eicholz

### V. Approval of Agenda

Add election of representative to the Unit 19 Sheep management working group.

### VI. Reports

### a. Chair's report

none

#### b. ADF&G:

Israel Payton, Director, Sport Fish Division. Provided information on the proposed federal fishing regulations for the Cook Inlet EEZ. A court decision stated that the federal government will manage the salmon fisheries within the Cook Inlet EEZ in Upper Cook Inlet. The current proposed management scenario would allow 2 12-hour periods per week.

#### VII. **Public Comment** none

### VIII. Old Business none

### IX. New Business

- Bob Cassell was elected to serve as the Matanuska Valley AC representative to the Unit 19C Dall sheep working group. Dan Montgomery was elected as the alternate.
- Review and prepare AC comment on Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Cook Inlet Salmon; Amendment 16-
  - Draft AC comments on the Federal Management Plan for fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Cook Inlet Salmon; Amendment 16 Fisheries were provided by Andy Couch in the form of a letter. Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee requests the National Marine Fishery Service to limit drift gillnetting in the Cook Inlet EEZ to no more than one 12 hour period per week for the proposed season of July 19 August 15, thereby providing a reasonable harvest opportunity for drift permit holders, while also ensuring better Northern Cook Inlet salmon spawning escapements and providing more reasonable salmon harvest opportunities for all other Upper Cook Inlet user groups compared to the suggested EEZ fishing schedule currently listed in Amendment 16.
  - The AC unanimously approved the letter as written. This letter was submitted on time before the deadline of December 18, 2023.

### • Advisory Committee Elections with terms expiring.

o People elected to The Mat Valley AC:

Bob Cassell (6/30/26) Gene Sandone (6/30/24) Casey Dinkle (6/30/24) Danny Lewis ((6/30/24) Ed Soto (6/30/26) Steve Bartelli (alternate) Bruce Privett (alternate)

- Assign Fisheries Subcommittee members:
  - o Gene Sandone, chair, Andy Couch, Neil DeWitt
  - o Subcommittee will meet December 13, 2023 (time and place to be determined)
- X. Set next meeting date:
  - Call of the chair
  - Upper Cook Inlet AC On-time Comment Deadline: Feb 8, 2024
- XI. Other

  XII. Adjourn

  Adjournment:

  Minutes Recorded By: \_Gene J Sandone\_\_\_\_

  Minutes Approved By: Will be approved at next meeting

  Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Fairbanks Fish & Game Advisory Committee

## **Interior Region Fish & Game Advisory Committees**

|  | Central         | Middle Nenana River    |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|
| John Siegfried                         | Delta Junction  | Middle Yukon River     |
| Chairman                               | Eagle           | Minto-Nenana           |
|  | Fairbanks       | Ruby                   |
| 3081 Monteverde Road                   | GASH            | Stony Holitna          |
| Fairbanks, Alaska 99709                | Koyukuk River   | Tanana-Rampart-Manley  |
| ······································ | Lake Minchumina | Upper Tanana Fortymile |
|  | McGrath         | Yukon Flats            |

December 19, 2023

To: Board of Game Sheep Working Group committee

Re: Fairbanks AC representatives

Dear Chair Burnett,

On December 13, 2023, the Fairbanks Fish & Game Advisory Committee voted unanimously to elect member Mike Kramer as our representative on the Unit 19C Sheep Working Group. Member Levi Lewellyn was chosen as an alternate.

Sincerely,

John Siegfried - Chairman

### Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, December 5, 2023

### **REI Community Room in Anchorage**

- 1. Meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair at 6:06 pm. (Advise Guests of Public Testimony signup sheet)
- 2. Establish a Quorum:

### Members Present:

| Name                    | Present | Excused | Unexcused |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| 1. Kevin Taylor         | Χ       |         |           |
| 2. Martin Weiser        | Х       |         |           |
| 3. Willow Hetrick       | Х       |         |           |
| 4. Joni Earp            | Х       |         |           |
| 5. Scott Crowther       | Χ       |         |           |
| 6. Matt Moore           |         | Х       |           |
| 7. Nicole Schmitt       | Χ       |         |           |
| 8. Bryce Eckroth        |         | Х       |           |
| 9. Ernie Weiss          | Χ       |         |           |
| 10. Lynette Moreno Hinz | Χ       |         |           |
| 11. J. R. Gates         |         | Х       |           |
| 12. Joel Doner          | Х       |         |           |
| 13. Ed Horton           |         | Х       |           |
| 14. Kneeland Taylor     | Χ       |         |           |
| 15. Neil Dewitt         | Χ       |         |           |

- 3. List of User groups present: None.
- 4. Introduce Fish and Game staff present: None.
- 5. Public present:
- 6. Approve the Agenda: Martin Weiser moved and Ernie Weiss seconded. It carried unanimously.
- 7. Public testimony: None.
- 8. New Business
  - 1. Wood Bison planning meeting was held in Fairbanks and attended by Nicole Schmitt. The focus of the group was the Lower Tanana bison herd. There is momentum towards introducing bison into the region. There is another meeting on December 19-21 (travels dates December 18 & 21), 2023 and will be focused on the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge which is situated amongst Corporate land and between several villages.

Anchorage AC Page 1/6

- 2. 19C Dall Sheep Hunting Working Group. Willow will submit Scott Crowther from the Anchorage AC & Kneeland Taylor as the non-consumptive user seat.
- 2. Prepare comments for the Kodiak Finfish Proposals 44-74. Ernie Weiss moved to accept the Fish Subcommittee votes and it was seconded by Neil DeWitt and carried unanimously. The Anchorage AC discussed Proposal 63 & 65 in the full committee.
- 3. Prepare comments for Upper Cook Inlet Proposals 153-170.
- 4. Schedule Fish Subcommittee meeting for remainder of Upper Cook Inlet Proposals: 12/13/23 3:30pm at Remax.
- 10. Adjourn: 7:30pm

The next regular Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at the William Hernandez Fish Hatchery at 6 pm.

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### Alaska Board of Fisheries Kodiak Meeting Proposals January 9-12, 2024 | Kodiak, AK

| Proposal<br>Number                             | Proposal Description |                  |   |  |
|--|----------------------|------------------|---|--|
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action | Number<br>Support    | Number<br>Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes |  |

Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.

| committee re | cora.  |               |  |
|--------------|--|---------------|--|
| 44           | Prohibit multiple hooks in Kodiak Island fresh waters                              |               |  |
| Oppose       | 0  | 11            | There is no biological concern and this is not warranted. No evidence      |
|              |  |               | that the mortality rates are higher. There are a lot of fisherman that are |
|              |  |               | fishing to take the fish home and there is not any reason to make those    |
|              |  |               | people fish with single hooks.   |
| 45           | Prohibit bait and multiple hooks in Kodiak Island fresh waters                     |               |  |
| Oppose       | 0  | 11            | No biological concern and no reason to enact this proposal.                |
| 46           | Allow sna  | igging as a l | legal method for sockeye salmon in Kodiak Island freshwaters               |
| Oppose       | 0  | 11            | No need for this proposal. The current system works. If snagging is legal  |
|              |  |               | it will open more opportunity for abuse.                                   |
| 47           | Repeal are   | eas closed to | o snagging and sport fishing in the Kodiak Area                            |
| Support      | 11   | 0             | We support the department simplifying regulations                          |
| 48           | Modify th  | e bag and p   | ossession limit for coho salmon in the Miam, Sacramento, and               |
|              | Saltery dr   | ainages       |  |
| Support      | 11   | 0             | We support the department increasing angling opportunities                 |
| 49           | Modify the Kodiak Area Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan        |               |  |
| Support      | 11   | 0             | King Salmon are a stock of concern statewide and an annual limit makes     |
|              |  |               | sense.   |
| 50           | Modify provisions of the management plan for rockfish in the Kodiak Area           |               |  |
| No Action    |  |               | No action  |
| 51           | Prohibit commercial transporters from sport or subsistence shellfish fishing while |               |  |
|              | transporting clients   |               |  |
| Oppose       | 0  | 11            | The fact that they are a transporter should not impact whether or not      |
|              |  |               | they can fish or drop crab pots. If they are residents and meet the        |
|              |  |               | requirements to fish or crab they should be allowed to continue doing so   |
| 52           | Establish new Kodiak Area commercial sablefish fishery                             |               |  |
| Oppose       | 0  | 11            | Fisherman can buy IFQ quotas if they want to enter the fishery. No need    |
|              |  |               | to add another fishery. There is a system in place that works.             |
| 53           | Allow groundfish pots to be longlined in the Kodiak Area state-waters Pacific cod  |               |  |

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| Alaska Board of Fisheries Kodiak Meeting Proposals<br>January 9-12, 2024   Kodiak, AK |  |                  |   |  |
|---|--|------------------|---|--|
| Proposal<br>Number  | Proposal Description   |                  |   |  |
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action  | Number<br>Support  | Number<br>Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes   |  |
|   | fishery  |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |  |                  | No action   |  |
| 54  | Amend sta  | ate-waters l     | Pacific cod guideline harvest level rollover criteria for pot and   |  |
| No Action   |  |                  | No action   |  |
| 55  | Amend sta  | ate-waters l     | Pacific cod guideline harvest level rollover criteria for pot and   |  |
| No Action   |  |                  | No action   |  |
| 56  | -  | _                | eason and periods for the Kodiak Management Area to increase ishing opportunity   |  |
| No Action   |  |                  | No action   |  |
| 57  | Modify herring purse seine gear, fishing season and periods, and herring sac roe harvest strategy to increase commercial herring harvest |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |  |                  | No action   |  |
| 58  | Establish waters closed to subsistence fishing for salmon outside the mouths of Danger and Cold creeks                                   |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |  |                  | No action   |  |
| 59  | Amend Ba   | asic Manag       | ement Plans   |  |
| No Action   |  |                  | No action   |  |
|   |  |                  | The growth in hatchery production for pinks has coincided with the drop in King Salmon numbers. There are a lot of factors in the decline of King Salmon in Alaska, this has to be factored in at some point. Other arguments are that the pinks and Kings feed at different depths. It's hard to know what the right answer is but lowering the number of pinks released might help. Hatcheries also need to be able to do their cost recovery so they need a minimum number of fish released to stay profitable. The proposer should have provided more hard numbers so we know how many pinks they are talking about reducing. We don't have enough knowledge to really address this. We believe that the issue needs to be considered but we don't know what the right answer is. |  |
| 60  | Modify th  | e Mainlana       | l District Salmon Management Plan to increase fishing   |  |

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| Alaska Board of Fisheries Kodiak Meeting Proposals<br>January 9-12, 2024   Kodiak, AK |   |                  |   |
|---|---|------------------|---|
| Proposal<br>Number  | Proposal Description  |                  |   |
| Support,<br>Support as<br>Amended,<br>Oppose,<br>No Action                            | Number<br>Support   | Number<br>Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes   |
|   | opportuni   | ty               |   |
| No Action   |   |                  | No action   |
| 61  | Restrict co   | ommercial        | salmon fishing in the Inner Dog Salmon Flats Section  |
| No Action   |   |                  | No action   |
| 62  | Increase c  | ommercial        | salmon fishing opportunity for set gillnet permit holders   |
| Support   | 11  | 0                | There needs to be a way to give the set net fleet an opportunity to catch fish because they cannot compete with the seine fleet when they are fishing at the same time. Advance openings for set netters could be an equitable solution. The seiners have become more efficient and can move to different areas while the set net fleet is stuck where they are.  |
| 63  | Allow per   | mit stackin      | g in the set gillnet salmon fishery   |
| Support   | 11  | 0                | There should be a state wide standard for permit stacking. It is legal in some fisheries and not in others. It makes sense in set net fisheries with declining X vessel values to allow permit stacking. It is difficult to hire crew in these fisheries and if you don't have a family member for the second permit you can be at a financial risk with the second permit.   |
| 64  | Modify gillnet specification and operations to increase the allowable size of the hook  |                  |   |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action  |
| 65  | Prohibit the use of aircraft to locate salmon for the commercial taking of salmon or to direct commercial salmon fishing operations in the Kodiak Management Area |                  |   |
| Support   | 8   | 2                | Comments in favor are it levels the playing field amongst fisherpeople, will reduce potential conflicts of aircraft, and because the fleet this proposal is targeting is an intercepting fishery/would allow more fish to make it to Upper Cook Inlet. Comments against were b/c it makes the salmon fishery more efficient and unless it is hazardous, we are not in favor of outlawing flying. 1 abstantian due to lack of knowledge. |
| 66  | Increase p  | ourse seine      | length in the Kodiak Management Area  |
| No Action<br>67   |   |                  | Take no action  |
| U/  | Restrict commercial salmon fishing in the Inner Ayakulik Section  |                  |   |

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| Alaska Board of Fisheries Kodiak Meeting Proposals<br>January 9-12, 2024   Kodiak, AK |   |                  |   |  |
|---|---|------------------|---|--|
| Proposal<br>Number  | Pronosal Description  |                  |   |  |
| Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action  | Number<br>Support   | Number<br>Oppose | Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes |  |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action  |  |
| 68  | Restrict co   | ommercial        | salmon fishing in the Inner Karluk Section                                      |  |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action  |  |
| 69  | Amend the <i>Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan</i> to implement commercial salmon fishing periods for set gillnet permit holders to increase harvest opportunity |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action, see proposal 62   |  |
| 70  | Modify the Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan to establish an allocation between gear groups  |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action, see proposal 62   |  |
| 71  | Modify the <i>Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan</i> to allow the department more flexibility for fishing periods in the Outer Karluk Section                     |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action,   |  |
| 72  | Modify the Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan to increase fishing opportunity in the Southwest Afognak Section  |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action  |  |
| 73  | Modify the Westside Kodiak salmon Management Plan to increase fishing opportunity   |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action  |  |
| 74  | Modify fishing districts and sections, gear, and Westside Kodiak Salmon  Management Plan to increase fishing opportunity  |                  |   |  |
| No Action   |   |                  | Take no action  |  |

### Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Martin Weiser/Willow Hetrick

Minutes Approved By: Kevin Taylor

Date: 12/5/2023

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Name: G Scott Crowther

Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

- Unit 19C, fall season Dall sheep resident hunter
- One or more of the following fish and game advisory committees: Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Matanuska Valley
- Non-hunting use of Dall sheep in Unit 19C

Document attached.

#### December 12, 2023

### George (Scott) Crowther Curriculum Vitae

### Background

Scott was born in the Territory of Alaska in Palmer, Alaska. His father was both a fisherman and hunter, and Scott was exposed to both activities during his childhood. In 1982 Scott went on a Dall Sheep hunt in the area that is now Unit 19C. His hunting partner was a veteran of many Dall Sheep hunts. That weeklong experience gave Scott a valuable hands-on education about the approach and procedures of Dall Sheep hunting. Both harvested one ram. Scott now serves on the ADFG Anchorage Advisory Committee.

#### **Education**

- Palmer High School
- Oregon State University: B.S., Civil Engineering, 1979
- University of California at Berkeley: M.S., Geotechnical Engineering, 1980

### Registration

• Civil Engineer: Alaska 6491

### Experience

- Crowther Associates 1992 Present
- Harding Lawson Associates 1981 1992 (Alaska and California)

### **ASCE Cold Regions Engineering Journal Publications**

- Estimating Thaw Strain Settlement of Frozen Fill, December 1992
- Lateral Pile Analysis Frozen Soil Strength Criteria, March 2015
- Anchorage Peat Study, September 2016
- Northern Exposure in Nome, December 2016

#### Award

1994 ASCE "State of the Art of Civil Engineering" Award

### **Favorite Quote**

If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them something more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it. President Lyndon Johnson

Name: Michelle Quillin

Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

• Unit 19C, fall season Dall sheep resident hunter

I have a bachelor of science degree from UAF in wildlife biology and conservation and I'm in the master of science degree program in natural resources and environment. My involvement so far includes testimony on behalf of Chief Vernon John of the Nikolai Edzeno Tribe on record at the BOG meeting in Soldotna, as well as written comment during the formation of the working group to share the same conservation concerns of 19C Dall sheep and to recommend Tribal involvement and representation to the working group. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Name: Steven Perrins

Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

Guide with Dall sheep hunting experience in Unit 19C

I am Master Guide #123 and own and Operate Rainy Pass Lodge. I started my guiding career in unit 16B and 19C in 1978 and have personally harvest sheep as well as guided for sheep in unit 19c for most of the last 5 + decades, and feel I bring alot of history and annual time in the field experience to the sheep issue. I would gladly participate in the sheep working group and would appreciate the chance to be involved.

Name: Richard Ray

Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

Unit 19C, fall season Dall sheep resident hunter

I am an Alaska resident that sheep hunts yearly and spend time looking for sheep during the year to observe the animals and the populations. I am concerned for the population of animals and the fair treatment of residents in the quest to hunt sheep.

I am retired and have time to devote to the working group.

Name: Spencer Pape
Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

- Unit 19C, fall season Dall sheep resident hunter
- Guide with Dall sheep hunting experience in Unit 19C
- Non-hunting use of Dall sheep in Unit 19C

My name is Spencer Pape, I'm a resident of Wasilla and have been a big game guide/outfitter(#1302) for 19 years, with the past 12 years in and around the area of Farewell, Alaska. Guiding big game hunters is the primary reason that takes me to 19C; however, I also feel the need to check 2 other boxes. I checked the resident fall sheep hunter because I took a Dall sheep ram for myself several years back and I checked the non-hunting use of Dall sheep because I have been working for Brice Environmental the past few years on the remediation of the abandoned Farewell airbase as well as being the lead trail breaker for the Iditarod Trail Committee. Through guiding, outdoor recreation, working for Brice Environmental and Iditarod Trail maintenance, I spend roughly 75 days afield in 19C alone.

I own and operate a small guiding operation and primarily hunt on the large tract of native corporation land in 19C. I feel very fortunate to be able to inhabit and hunt on the CIRI lands and do not take it lightly. When the decline in sheep numbers became noticeable, I started cutting back on the number of sheep hunters to provide a quality hunting experience but more importantly, to conserve the sheep resource. This section of 19C has traditionally always held good numbers of sheep as compared to the rest of the unit. I have found that this area holds some key features that help Dall sheep thrive and believe "we" can duplicate, develop and or replicate these same features in other areas of the State to help Dall sheep.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Spencer Pape

Name: Mike Litzen

Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

Guide with Dall sheep hunting experience in Unit 19C

Document attached.

To: Alaska Board of Game

Chairman Hoffman and fellow selection committee members,

My name is Michael Litzen. This letter is to officially express my interest in being seated on the 19-C sheep working group for the guide's seat. In case some of you are not familiar with me, please allow me to list some of the experience that I have that would make me well suited for this position.

I hold master guide license #129 and I'm also a transporter #647. I have been a resident of the State of Alaska for 53 years. Several years ago, I was on the board of directors for APHA for three terms of three years each. I have guided sheep in the western Alaska Range in GMU 19-C for 42 years. I have been a contracting guide for sheep as well as other species there for 37 years. Over that time, I have also dropped off some resident sheep hunters as a transporter. I own and operate Litzen Guide Service which holds an air taxi certificate with 4 aircraft. My wife and I own a lodge and five acres in the Northeast corner of 19-C just outside Denali National Park. Through the 43 years and nearly 19,000 flight hours and guiding, I have not had a single accident or Fish and Wildlife violation.

In addition to my lodge support flying, I have done serval other kinds of flying such as a ten-year career as a commercial fish spotter. One of the more satisfying flying jobs that I have done is wildlife work for the Alaksa Department of Fish & Game. I first started with moose surveys in 1987 and since that time I have stayed very active with many of the jobs as a F&G survey pilot. I have flown sheep surveys in GMU 7, 13, 14, 15 and 19 including some of the recent 19-C trend count areas. I have been fortunate enough to be involved with sheep captures and lambing studies with Dr Lohuis in GMU 13 and 14.

The reason I feel uniquely qualified for this seat on the working group is my many years of guiding and wildlife work for F&G. I also feel at this stage of my career I will be capable of making difficult choices that may arise in the group for future sheep management in 19-C. As an example, back when the controversial proposition 207 was before the BOG, I took an unpopular position to support that. Not many of my other "airplane guide" friends did, and some vehemently opposed it. I felt like it was a small step to deal with the ever-expanding pressure on sheep and sheep hunters.

I have been fortunate and honored to have made my living being involved with the precious nature resource of wild Alaska sheep and I feel a strong desire to do my part to help preserve it for the future. Please consider my name for a seat on this working group.

TO: Chairman Hoffman, Alaska Board of Game

Re: Mike Litzen selected to be on 19C sheep working group

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

I am writing today to offer my strong support for Mr. Mike Litzen (Mike) to be selected as one of the committee members on the 19C sheep working group. I first met Mike in the late 1980s when I began using him as a survey pilot when I was employed as Kenai Area Biologist with Department of Fish and Game. Mike was the primary survey pilot I flew surveys with until retiring in 2002, about 15 years. During this time, we conducted annual surveys to assess moose, caribou, sheep, goats, wolves, and bears. We also conducted furbearer surveys on lynx and wolverine. Mike was not only an excellent and very safe pilot, but he was also exceptionally talented at spotting game and tracking animals from the air. In the many hours of flying with Mike, I never felt I was ever in an unsafe situation.

The Subunit 19C working group will need fair and experienced individuals to reach any meaningful management directives for the future. I believe, because of Mike's unique and long-time experience in 19C, he is clearly an excellent choice for a seat on the committee. When Mike supported proposal 207, he came under some immense pressure from fellow guides that were long-time friends, and he never gave up his belief that the proposal would benefit sheep and sheep hunters. His experience and actions such as his support for 207, make him an excellent individual to have on this committee.

Name: Paul Forward

Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

Non-hunting use of Dall sheep in Unit 19C

I grew up in Alaska and have been an avid hunter, whitewater kayaker/packrafter and backcountry skier for 30 years. Since 2011 I have frequented the area around the border of GMU 16B and 19C for backcountry packrafting adventures and drop-camp backcountry skiing. I care deeply for this area and plan to spend time there throughout the rest of my life. In addition I am very active and well connected in the backcountry skiing, paddling and wilderness travel communities. I have never hunted in 19c and have no plans to do so but I am a dedicated hunter in other parts of the state. I have been involved in multiple conservation organizations (current BOD for the Rocky Mountain Goat Alliance) and have met with regional biologists on many occasions to discuss sheep and mountain goat conservation. I have helped with informational podcast and other events. I have tried to attend all sheep related BOG meetings in recent years. As a physician I am well versed in scientific literature review.

Name: Rob Jones Jr.

Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

Guide with Dall sheep hunting experience in Unit 19C

Document attached.

From: Rob Jones Jr.

To: Alaska Department of Fish and Game Board of Game

Dear Members of the Board of Game. My name is Rob Jones Jr. I am writing to you to let you know I am interested in being involved with the committee on the Unit 19C Sheep Management Working Group. A little about myself, I am a Registered guide, Number GUIR778. I operate and guiding business in GMU 19C. Have been actively conducting hunting guiding services there since 1992. My base of operations there is located upper area of the Big River drainage and is located on private land that I own. It is a tract of land that is 38.9 Acres. I also own another undeveloped parcel approximately 12 miles NW of our base of operations. Since 1992 up until 2022 I conducted fully guided Dall Sheep hunts in 19C. I also operate an FAA part 135 small air service out of there which holds a Big Game Commercial Services Transporter license number GUIT778. The air service provides on demand flights for 4 other guide operations that also operate in 19C.

We also provide air support, lodging services, and other logistical services, mostly in the Kuskokwim Area of the state. We also provide services to nonhunting related activities in GMU19.

- Mountaineering parties
- · Backpacking and photography
- Land survey projects
- Exploration projects
- On demand charter flights for the local communities of Mcgrath, Nikolai, Takotna

Thank you for reaching out to the people that work, play, subsist and use Unit 19C to help with the design of a management plan for the Dall Sheep of the area. If you have any questions for me feel free to call or email anytime.

Rob Jones Jr., Owner/ Operator R&R Hunting & Outdoor Adventures, LLC Hesperus Air Service, LLC Name: Chait Borade

Contact Information:

### **Interest Representation:**

• Unit 19C private landowner

I am writing on behalf of Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI), an Alaska Native Corporation (ANC) and the largest private landowner in the Southcentral region. As CIRI's Director of Land & Resources, I am writing to express CIRI's interest in becoming a member of the working group for Unit 19C sheep management. CIRI owns close to 100,000 acres in Unit 19C and offers recreational use of its lands to the general public and its Shareholders and Descendants. CIRI is committed to fostering an open dialogue and collaboration among all stakeholders involved in the management of Unit 19C. CIRI understands the importance of ensuring long-term sustainability of the wildlife populations and their habitats and if given the opportunity to serve as a member of the working group, will actively participate in meetings, contribute to policy discussions, and provide valuable input on matters related to Dall Sheep hunting and land management in Unit 19C. Sincerely - Chait Borade

Document attached.



December 18, 2023

Kristy Tibbles Executive Director Alaska Board of Game PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5536

Re: Letter of Interest- Member in the Alaska Board of Games Committee on Unit 19c.

Dear Committee Members of the Alaska Board of Game,

I am writing on behalf of Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI), an Alaska Native Corporation (ANC) and the largest private landowner in the Southcentral region. As CIRI's Director of Land & Resources, I am writing to express CIRI's interest in becoming a member of the working group for Unit 19C sheep management. CIRI owns close to 100,000 acres in Unit 19C and offers recreational use of its lands to the general public and its Shareholders and Descendants.

CIRI is committed to fostering an open dialogue and collaboration among all stakeholders involved in the management of Unit 19C. CIRI understands the importance of ensuring long-term sustainability of the wildlife populations and their habitats and if given the opportunity to serve as a member of the working group, will actively participate in meetings, contribute to policy discussions, and provide valuable input on matters related to Dall Sheep hunting and land management in Unit 19C.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Feel free to reach out to me at , if you have any questions.

Sincerely, COOK INLET REGION, INC.

Chart Borade

Chait Borade Director, Land & Resources