

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

1 (800) 315-6338 (MEET) Code: 58756# (KUSKO)

ADF&G Bethel toll free: 1 (855) 933-2433

June 25, 2025

Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m. on Wednesday June 25, 2025 and adjourned at 11:27 p.m. Meeting time was approximately 1 hour and 24 minutes. 8 full voting members were present and a quorum was not established. Barbara Carlson chaired the meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS:

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

A. SUBSISTENCE REPORTS:

B. 2025 ASSESSMENT

C. Intercept fishery

D. MANAGEMENT DISCUSSIONS:

Subsistence sections 1-3 updates: USFWS/KRITFC

Sections 4-5: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G)

E. MOTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

WORKING GROUP BUSINESS:

WORKING GROUP ACTION ITEMS:

WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:

Quorum was not met. No motions were made nor passed.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

KRITFC/USFWS UPDATE:

ADF&G MANAGEMENT ACTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION:

SUBSISTENCE REPORTS:

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Subsistence Reports

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- a. Lowest River:
 - b. ONC Inseason Subsistence Report: Jacob Wade provided an overview of the ONC Inseason Subsistence surveys, more than 50% of fishers have met their Chinook salmon harvest goals. *(For more information on the ONC Subsistence Harvest Monitoring, please see the June 25, Informational Packet)* Audio for this update begins 7:45 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25
 - c. KRITFC Inseason Harvest Report: Justin Leon speaks about the Community Based Harvest Monitoring. *(For more information on the KRITFC Inseason Harvest Report, please see the June 25, Informational Packet)* Audio for this update begins 15:54 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25
 - d. Lower River: Mike Williams, Sr reported that harvest for Chinook salmon has been more successful, a few families are going up to the Kalskag line to fish. People are catching 40% chums and 60% reds. *Audio for this update begins 11:45 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*
 - e. Middle River:
 - f. Upper River: Barbara Carlson reported that the Chinook salmon are comprising the majority of harvests. Mrs. Carlson commented that people are happy with size and number of salmon. John Andrew reported that fishers are successful. Mr. Andrew commented that bears are becoming more frequent. *Audio for this update begins 28:02 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*
 - g. Headwaters: Allen Simeon reported that the Aniak River rose 14 inches. Mr. Simeon commented that the white fish harvested are large. *Audio for this update begins 25:42 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*
2. **Overview of Kuskokwim River Salmon run assessment Projects:**
- a. ADF&G: Sean Larson provided an overview of the ADF&G assessment projects. *(For more information on the 2025 Inseason Assessment Projects, please see the June 25 Informational Packet)* Audio for this update begins 38:25 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25
 - b. Aniak Test Fish: Sean Larson provided an overview of the Aniak Test Fishery *(For more information on the 2025 Inseason Assessment Projects, please see the June 25 informational Packet)*
 - c. USFWS: *There is no information to report nor reference in the June 25 Informational Packet. Audio for this update begins 44:51 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*
 - d. ONC: Jacob Wade provided an overview of the ONC Inseason assessment project. *(For more information on the 2025 ONC Subsistence Harvest report, please see the June 25 Informational Packet)* Audio for this update begins 46:55 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25

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- e. KRITFC: Justin Leon provided an overview of KRITFC's Inseason assessment. *(For more information on the 2025 KRITFC Inseason Assessment, please see the June 25 Informational Packet) Audio for this update begins 53:23 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*
3. **Intercept Fishery Report**: Tad Lindley provided an overview of the intercept fishery. Mr. Lindley commented on Port Moler Sockeye salmon genetics. *Audio for this update begins 56:52 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*
4. **YDNWR Management Update**: Spencer Rearden reported that they will be meeting with KRITFC to make their management updates. *Audio for this update begins 1:02:17 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*
5. **Discussion of ADF&G Management considerations and discussion of possible alternatives**: Sam Decker provided no management update for the state. *Audio for this update begins 1:03:18 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*

OLD BUSINESS:

Teleconference platform update: permission to move ahead with Zoom. New phone number will be advertised soon. July 9th meeting will be on Zoom and this teleconference number will still work to help people convert over to the new system. *Audio for this update begins 1:04:36 – Meeting Audio – 6/25/25*

NEW BUSINESS:

Sam Decker provided discussion on chairman responsibilities due to Lamont Albertson needing to take a leave of absence. The conversation was whether to vote a new chair in or to operate with three chairs. *Audio for this update begins 1:06:36 – Meeting Audio - 6/25/25*

WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:

Quorum was not met. No motions were made nor passed.

COMMENTS FROM THE WORKING GROUP: *No additional comments were provided from the Working Group Members.*

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WORKING GROUP ATTENDANCE:

MEMBER SEAT:	NAME:
DOWNRIVER ELDER	John Andrew
UPRIVER ELDER	Allen Simeon
LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Mike Williams, Sr
MIDDLE RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Walter Morgan
UPRIVER SUBSISTENCE	Barbara Carlson
HEADWATERS SUBSISTENCE	Absent
MEMBER AT LARGE	Avery Hoffman
WESTERN INTERIOR RAC	<i>Vacant</i>
YK DELTA RAC	Absent
COMMERCIAL FISHING	Tad Lindley
SPORT FISHING	Absent
PROCESSOR	<i>Vacant</i>
KRITFC	Absent
ADF&G	Sam Decker
CHAIR	Barbara Carlson

Other Participants:		
<u>ADF&G Comm Fish:</u> Sean Larson, Aaron Tiernan, Keegan Birchfield, Iris Fletcher, <u>Sport Fish:</u> John Chythlook <u>Subsistence:</u> Jane Jacob		
<u>USFWS:</u> Aaron Moses, Spencer Rearden, Brian Daniels, Christ Tulik, Emmet Nicori, Christian Alexie, Jr, Frank Harris, Nate Akers <u>OSM:</u> Nissa Pilcher, Kevin Foley		
Jacob Wade (ONC) Manny Herrera Matthias (ONC) Ashley Johnson (AVCP) Lucinda Alexie	Andrew Magle (KRITFC) Daniel Conner (KRITFC) Justin Leon (KRITFC)	<u>Media:</u> <u>WG Alternates:</u>

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (**ADF&G, department, State**), Orutsarmiut Traditional Native Council (**OTNC**), Association of Village Council Presidents (**AVCP**), Georgetown Traditional Council (**GTC**), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (**USFWS**), Bethel Test Fishery project (**BTF**), Catch Per Unit Effort (**CPUE**), Coastal Village Seafoods (**CVS**), ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Division (**CF**), ADF&G Sport Fisheries Division (**SF**), Regional Advisory Council (**RAC**), Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group (**KRSMWG, Working Group, or WG**), Sustainable Escapement Goal (**SEG**), Biological Escapement Goal (**BEG**), Management Objective (**MO**), Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence (**ANS**), Emergency Order (**EO**), Bering Sea Fishermen's Association (**BSFA**), Law Enforcement (**LE**), Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (**KRITFC**), Native Village of Napaimute (**NVN**), Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (**YKHC**), Alaska State Troopers (**AST**), University of Alaska Fairbanks (**UAF**)

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