

# **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: Fritz Charles commented on his fishing success and the proportion of salmon species he was able to harvest. *Audio for this update begins 13:59 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
- b. Lower River: Mike Williams, Sr commented on the improvement of the Chinook population across the past few years. Mr. Williams noted that the tail end of the Chinook run appears to be there in Akiak. *Audio for this update begins 14:41 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
- c. ONC Inseason Subsistence Report: Jacob Wade provided an overview of the ONC Inseason Subsistence surveys. *(For more information on the ONC Subsistence Harvest Monitoring, please see the July 9, Informational Packet) Audio for this update begins 19:00 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
- d. KRITFC Inseason Harvest Report: Justin Leon provided an overview of KRITFC's harvest and survey reports. *(For more information on the KRITFC Inseason Harvest Report, please see the July 9, Informational Packet) Audio for this update begins 20:24 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
- e. Middle River:
- f. Upper River: Allen Simeon commented on high water but still being able to meet their harvest needs. *Audio for this update begins 25:57 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
- g. Headwaters: *Audio for this update begins 25:42 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
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 July 9 Informational Packet) Audio for this update begins 28:05 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
  - b. Aniak Test Fish: Dan Gillikin provided an overview of the Aniak Test Fishery *(For more information on the 2025 Inseason Assessment Projects, please see the July 9 informational Packet) Audio for this update begins 33:03 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
  - c. USFWS: Nate Akers provided updates on the Smolt Trap Project, *There is no information to reference in the July 9 Informational Packet. Audio for this update begins 35:20 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
  - 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 July 9 Informational Packet) Audio for this update begins 37:05 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
  - e. KRITFC: Justin Leon provided an overview of KRITFC's Inseason assessment. *(For more information on the 2025 KRITFC Inseason Assessment, please see the*

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*July 9 Informational Packet) Audio for this update begins 40:32 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*

3. **Intercept Fishery Report:** *Audio for this update begins 40:52 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
4. **YDNWR Management Update:** Aaron Moses filled in for Spencer Rearden. Mr. Moses provided no update on management but provided information on a upcoming meeting that will produce an update. *Audio for this update begins 41:13 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*
5. **Discussion of ADF&G Management considerations and discussion of possible alternatives:** Sam Decker provided no management update for the state. Mrs. Decker did provided update on recent management outreach trips as well as upcoming aerial surveys. *Audio for this update begins 42:01 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Teleconference platform update: This was the first meeting on Zoom.

Co-chair update: Sam Decker reiterated the search for a new co-chair. Mike Williams, Sr voiced his support and pending nomination of Avery Hoffman for co-chair. *Audio for this update begins 48:15 – Meeting Audio – 7/9/25*

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Sam Decker provided update on inviting presenters to the working group. Presentations are determined by the Working Group schedule. *Audio for this update begins 51:18 – Meeting Audio - 7/9/25*

## **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.*

## **WORKING GROUP ATTENDANCE:**

MEMBER SEAT:	NAME:
DOWNRIVER ELDER	John Andrew

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UPRIVER ELDER	Allen Simeon
LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Mike Williams, Sr
MIDDLE RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Absent
UPRIVER SUBSISTENCE	Absent
HEADWATERS SUBSISTENCE	Absent
MEMBER AT LARGE	Absent
WESTERN INTERIOR RAC	<i>Vacant</i>
YK DELTA RAC	Absent
COMMERCIAL FISHING	Absent
SPORT FISHING	Absent
PROCESSOR	<i>Vacant</i>
KRITFC	Absent
ADF&G	Sam Decker
CHAIR	Fritz Charles

<b>Other Participants:</b>		
<u>ADF&amp;G Comm Fish:</u> Sean Larson, Aaron Tiernan, Iris Fletcher, Zach Liller, Madison Hardwig		
<u>Sport Fish:</u>		
<u>Subsistence:</u> Jane Jacob		
<u>USFWS:</u> Aaron Moses, Nate Akers		
<u>OSM:</u>		
Jacob Wade (ONC)	Justin Leon (KRITFC)	<u>Media:</u>
Essie Bean (ONC)	Bill Bechdel (KRITFC)	
Ashley Johnson (AVCP)	Terese Vicente (KRITFC)	<u>WG Alternates:</u>
Amy Hendricks (AVCP)	Dan Gillikin (NVN)	
Paul Wilkins (CVRF)		

## **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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