

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

1 (888) 788-0099 Code: 849016

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

MONTH DATE, YEAR

Meeting called to order at 10:08 a.m. on Wednesday, July 30, 2025 and adjourned at 12:00 p.m. Meeting time was approximately 1 hours and 52 minutes. XXX full voting members were present and a quorum was 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:

Audio for this update begins 10:02 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25

KRITFC/USFWS UPDATE:

ADF&G MANAGEMENT ACTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION:

SUBSISTENCE REPORTS:

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

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1. ***Subsistence Reports***

- a. Lowest River:
- b. Lower River: Avery Hoffman commented on federal openers allowing people more freedom in when they fish. Mr. Hoffman also commented on the size of coho salmon. *Audio for this update begins 10:43 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*
- c. Middle River:
- d. Upper River: Alan Simmeon commented on water conditions and the impact on salmon runs. Barbara Carlson commented on appearance of coho and increased catches of cisco. *Audio for this update begins 15:32 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*
- e. Headwaters: Kevin Whitworth commented on increased catches of cisco and whitefish, as well as continued catches of chinook and chum salmon. *Audio for this update begins 23:18 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*

2. ***Overview of Kuskokwim River Salmon run assessment Projects:***

- a. ADF&G: Sean Larson provided an overview of ADF&G run assessment projects. *Audio for this update begins 26:41 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*
 - b. NVN: No one was present to provide comment from NVN.
 - c. USFWS: Aaron Moses reiterated fishing opportunities and provided a tentative timeline for future management decisions. *Audio for this update begins 36:35 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*
 - d. ONC: Essie Bean provided survey data from the last opener. *Audio for this update begins 40:22 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*
 - e. KRITFC: Justin Leon provided an overview of KRITFC harvest reports. *Audio for this update begins 46:11 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*
3. ***Intercept Fishery Report***: Kevin Whitworth and Terese Vicente provided bycatch and intercept fishery data. *Audio for this update begins 49:41 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*
 4. ***YDNWR Management Update***: Aaron Moses provided no management updates. Mr. Moses provided the opener dates. *Audio for this update begins 1:01:22 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*
 5. ***Discussion of ADF&G Management considerations and discussion of possible alternatives***: Sam Decker provided no management considerations. Mrs. Decker did provide an update on aerial surveys on the Kuskokwim River. *Audio for this update begins 1:02:59 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ***Co-chairs update***: No quorum during the meeting to update old business. The update will be carried over to the next meeting's agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

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1. ***Chum Salmon Bycatch Environmental Impact Statement:*** Terese Vicente presented chum bycatch numbers as well as information on the North Pacific Fisheries Marine Council. *Audio for this update begins 1:19:24 – Meeting Audio – 7/30/25*

WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:

1. **Approve the agenda**
2. **Adjourn**

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	Absent
UPRIVER ELDER	Allan Simmeon
LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Absent
MIDDLE RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Absent
UPRIVER SUBSISTENCE	Barbara Carlson
HEADWATERS SUBSISTENCE	Kevin Whitworth
MEMBER AT LARGE	Barbara Carlson
WESTERN INTERIOR RAC	<i>Vacant</i>
YK DELTA RAC	<i>Vacant</i>
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> Madison Hardwig, Sean Larson, Aaron Tiernan, Zach Liller, Keegan Birchfield		
<u>Sport Fish:</u>		
<u>Subsistence:</u> Jane Jacob, Tim Bembenic		
<u>USFWS:</u> Aaron Moses, Nate Akers, Frank Harris		
<u>OSM:</u> Nissa Pilcher, Kevin Foley		
ONC: Jacob Wade, Avery Hoffman, Essie Bean, Emilie Madson, Leah Valdez, Amber Chase AVCP: Amy Hendricks	KRITFC: Bill Bechtol, Justin Leon, Andrew Magul Savannah Hollingworth	<u>Media:</u> <u>WG Alternates:</u>

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (**ADF&G, department, State**), Orutsararmiut 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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